FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 FEBRUARY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces have captured three Iraqi missile bases in Al-Faw and have killed, wounded, or captured some 7,200 Iraqi troops in the course of their latest offensive, Iran announced in a military communique reported by IRNA 12 February. In a related report, the agency claimed that the Iranians have downed 14 Iraqi warplanes and have captured over 150 tanks and personnel carriers since the start of the offensive.

In contrast, an Iraqi commander cited by Voice of the Masses radio stated that the Iraqi III Army Corps defeated another Iranian attack east of Basra the night of 11 February. A military communique broadcast earlier by the radio stated that the III Army Corps had "wiped out the aggressors in the last foothold they had on its right flank," killing 1,978 Iranian troops. Iraqi forces killed 500 Iranians in recapturing Umm al-Rasas Island, the communique stated, and Iraqi warplanes launched further strikes against Iranian targets, including the Ganaveh pipeline intersection. As for the air war, Iraqi military sources cited by INA reported the downing of an Iranian Phantom over the southern front on 12 February.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn briefed visiting PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on Iraq's "success" in crushing the Iranian offensive, Voice of the Masses reported. Meanwhile, the Iraqi defense minister denied Iranian claims about an Iranian "seige" of Al-Faw in a telephone conversation with his Kuwaiti counterpart, INA revealed. Bahrain and Oman likewise denounced the Iranian offensive in official statements reported by WAKH and Muscat radio.

Israel

Welcoming Anatoliy Shcharanskiy in a speech broadcast by IDF radio, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said he is "deeply moved" by the attitude of the U.S. people and government toward Israel and the Soviet Jews. The radio also broadcast Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's remarks welcoming Shcharanskiy's deliverance from the "purgatory" of a Soviet jail and urging the Soviet people to "open the gates of your country for the members of the Jewish nation who wish to return to their homeland." In earlier remarks broadcast by IDF radio, Shamir noted that the Soviet Union is expected to release up to seven more "prisoners of Zion," and he said the Soviet Union is trying to buy the sympathy of Western public opinion by freeing individuals.

In a separate development, the Israeli Navy chased and captured a "suspicious" Turkish boat off the Gaza coast, Jerusalem radio reported. The captain was found dead and crew members claimed that he was killed by shots fired by the Israeli Navy during the chase.

Libya-Chad

GUNT forces captured Koro Toro, Kouba Olanga, and Oum Chalouba in northern Chad, AFP reported 12 February, citing a communique from GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei. The communique also "categorically" denied that Libyan forces are participating in the fighting. Ndjamena radio earlier reported that "Libyan invaders" had been "forced out" of Kouba Olanga 11 February. In Tripoli, a JANA editor said that Chadian claims that Libya is "preparing to undertake" military action in Chad are "untruthful" and "cause for ridicule," adding that Libya is committed to noninterference in "this tribal war." Nevertheless, the Libreville radio station Africa No. 1 cited Chadian official sources as saying that Kouba Olanga was attacked by Libyan troops and not by the forces of Goukouni Oueddei.

Lebanon

Sixty-four people have been arrested and charged with terrorism and sabotage, a Lebanese Forces source told Voice of Lebanon radio. The arrests were carried out after people "involved with" former Lebanese Forces leader Elie Hubayqah began to assemble "sabotage teams," the radio disclosed earlier. The radio claimed that former Lebanese Forces security chief As'ad Shaftari had coordinated the terrorist operations, adding that sources indicated Shaftari met with a Syrian intelligence officer in West Beirut 10 February.

In a subsequent development, Voice of Lebanon reported two people were killed and five wounded in an explosion at the Star Movie Theater in the 'Ayn al-Rummanah area of East Beirut on 12 February. Radio Free Lebanon followed with a report blaming Elie Hybayqah supporters for the explosion, and claiming that 2 women were killed and 14 people wounded.

PDRY

The former interior and deputy security ministers and the former commanders of the Air and Air Defense Force, Navy, and Militia have reportedly been arrested for their involvement in the "recent events," according to Kuwait's *AL-ANBA'* citing a Yemeni source. In a separate development, WAKH cited the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD as reporting that PLO representative in Aden* 'Abbas Zaki was expelled from the PDRY 10 February for "intervening" last month on the side of former leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

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'Arafat Meets With Iraq's 'Aziz in Baghdad

JN111712 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1650 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this morning. They dealt with the latest military developments on the front. They also discussed important Arab and international issues, particularly the developments in the Palestinian cause.

The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by brother Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee memebr, and brother 'Azzam al-Ahmad, PLO representative in fraternal Iraq. It was attended on the Iraqi side by the Foreign Ministry undersecretary and the director of the liberation movements office at the RCC.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar arrived in Baghdad yesterday evening on a visit of several days.

Iraq's 'Aziz Cables Klibi on Iranian Attack

LD111320 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz has sent a message to Chedli Klibi, the Arab League secretary general, informing him of the Iranian attack on Iraqi territories and its threat to Arab sovereignty and to security and stability in the region. 'Aziz called for the convening of an emergency meeting of the Arab follow-up committee, which was set up by the Arab League.

The Arab League Secretariat General in Tunis has stressed its commitment to the principles of the Arab position, based on not allowing the occupation of an Arab League member-country. In a statement issued yesterday evening, the League's Secretariat General points out the seriousness of the situation resulting from Iran's aggression. It adds that the seriousness of this aggression dictates a moral duty and responsibility on the international community to defend world peace and security.

Klibi Issues War Communique

LD111856 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] In Tunis, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi issued a communique this afternoon expressing the deep concern and disappointment of the Secretariat General of the Arab League over the fresh grave escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war by Iran.

Chedli Klibi recalled the constant elements of the Arab position based on the impermissibility of threats against the territory of an Arab state which is a part of this nation and a member of its League, and on considering peaceful negotiations to preserve the legitimate rights of the two parties to the conflict, in accordance with the principles of international law, as the sole means of bringing to an end the destructive war which has been eating into the energies of two peoples linked by ties of neighborliness, fraternity, and common interests.

The communique further says that in view of the situation resulting from Iran's failure to respond to Arab calls, the Arab League Secretariat General must underscore the heavy responsibility borne by a group of states for the continuation of this war, and the fact that the superpowers must assume the duty of giving momentum to the efforts to ensure peace.

On the other hand, a source close to the Arab League said a short while ago that the Seven-Man Committee of the Arab countries charged with following up the Iraqi-Iranian conflict will meet in the next 48 hours in Baghdad. This committee includes Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Kuwait, North Yemen, Morocco, Iraq, and the secretary general of the Arab League.

PLO's Milhim Rejects Peres' Autonomy Proposal

PM111559 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
11 Feb 86 p 2

[*AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Amman Bureau report: "Milhim: Peres' Autonomy Threat Frustrates All Peace Plans"]

[Excerpt] PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim described the Israeli prime minister's threat to implement administration autonomy in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as a consecration of occupation, a denial of international legitimacy and of the Palestinian people's rights, and a frustration of peace efforts. It will, therefore, plunge the area into further instability and escalate Israeli terrorism against the population under a new regime, the purpose of which is to fool international public opinion into believing that Israel is offering something to the Palestinian people.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, Milhim expressed the belief that the U.S. insistence on imposing conditions on the PLO in its effort to achieve a just and lasting peace in the area was designed to give Peres the justification he needed for his announcement the day before yesterday.

He said that autonomy without recognizing the Palestinian people's rights and giving the Palestinians the freedom to choose their own representatives to legitimate institutions such as municipalities and similar bodies and, instead, imposing on them what the occupation wants, pursuing the policy of building settlements, and resorting to iron-fisted methods will meet the same fate as the Village Leagues which were tried before as an alternative to the PLO but which failed because our people rejected them.

Peres' announcement, he added, has revealed a plan which was previously tried by the Village League. The plan is now being tried again under a new title in order to set up a substitute which Peres will appoint to represent the Palestinian people. The aim is to seize the land and force its inhabitants to vacate it. We must understand that autonomy according to the Israeli concept which was clarified and revealed at Camp David means autonomy for the people and not the land and the water resources.

He said: The Palestinian answer to the Israeli threat is that we should move with an open mind along the path toward achieving peace, but without going beyond the constant lines established in the PNC resolutions and the Amman accord.

Anti-Israeli Operations Detailed 10 Feb

JN101648 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1606 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] A military spokesman of the Palestinian revolution forces General Command has stated the following:

Upon orders, one of our groups operating inside occupied territory launched a surprise attack against a military enemy patrol in Halhul in the West Bank. The attack, in which incendiary hand grenades were used, resulted in the destruction of a military vehicle, killing or wounding its occupants who were enemy soldiers.

Despite the security cordon which the occupation authorities imposed around the area, our revolutionaries were able to withdraw safely to base. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The General Command of the Palestinian Revolution Forces

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the attack, but, as usual, refrained from mentioning Zionist losses. The spokesman said that his forces besieged the area, searched it, and arrested a number of Palestinian citizens for interrogation.

The Palestinian military spokesman also stated the following:

Another group of our fighters inside the occupied territory, after receiving instructions, attacked a Zionist military vehicle with hand grenades on the Jabaliyah-Gaza Road in the occupied Gaza Strip. Our fighters' daring attack resulted in damaging the vehicle and killing or wounding the enemy soldiers in it. Having implemented their mission with success, our fighters returned safely to base. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The General Command of the Palestinian Revolution Forces

The enemy occupation forces besieged and searched the area in search of our fighters, but to no avail.

BAHRAIN

Escalation of Iran-Iraq War Termed 'Major Setback'

GF120632 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0610 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Manama, 12 Feb (WAKH) — Bahrain has affirmed that the new Iranian offensive in Basra and Shatt al-'Arab area represents a serious escalation of the Iraq-Iran war and a major setback for all the efforts to end it.

Bahrain has also affirmed that this offensive does not merely increase the probability of expanding the war and adding to it new tragedies and losses but also provides an opportunity for the Islamic nation's enemies to harm it at present and threaten its future.

A statement issued by the Bahraini Foreign Ministry last night denounced the escalation of the war. It extolled Iraq's principled stand which calls for settling the conflict in a peaceful way.

The statement called for insight and wisdom and for rising above the wounds and following the path that leads to peace and security and away from the path of war, evil, and destruction.

KUWAIT

Amir Contacts Iraqi President Saddam Husayn

LD111046 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] His Highness the Amir of Kuwait has contacted by telephone his brother Staff Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, president of the sisterly Republic of Iraq.

Foreign Minister Departs for Baghdad Gulf War Talks

LD121119 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait 12 Feb (KUNA) — At 1330 today the acting prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, left for Baghdad to participate in a meeting of the seven-man committee following up on the developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

ARAB TIMES on How New PDRY Leadership Is Seen

GF111034 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 10 Feb 86 p 6

["Opinion" by Ahmad al-Jarallah: "How, Not Who, Is Important for Aden"]

[Text] It is not important which individuals rule South Yemen, but the political views of the rulers are important. The events in that country, the thousands of victims, and the destruction of civic installations, give a clear indication of what the people of Aden want.

South Yemen is an important country for the Gulf and Arab Peninsula, but we are sorry to say there is isolation between this country, which is important because of its location, and the states of the area, which are important because of their wealth.

The leadership has changed in Aden, and what is required now is a change in the political views of this important country. South Yemen missed many opportunities, and the new leaders feel this, but do not reveal it. But the important thing is that they are actually leaders, and new ones at that, and so there is the likelihood that they will understand the coming stage.

The South Yemeni people must have certain objectives because they have paid in human and material losses. We cannot say that these costly sacrifices were to preserve the ruling ideology because the people did not need to create an explosive situation, kill first-class politicians and bring in second-class ones for this purpose.

Many politicians in the area expect many things from the change in political faces in Aden. They think that this change may result in one of two political trends: either a new political ideology, or one that takes lessons from previous developments.

There are indications to show there are two trends namely: seeking a middle path between the Soviets and the Americans, and seeking to show the states of the area that their stand will not change, especially in the case of countries that are sensitive to developments in Aden. These trends stress that the new political faces in Aden aim at balanced relations and insist that they obliged the former president of South Yemen to follow a flexible policy towards the states of the area. These indications are good, because nobody wants South Yemen to be another Lebanon.

But the new leaders in Aden need some time, and others should change their views of that country, especially those who are interested in making South Yemen a neutral country and making their social development plans in accordance with the social and religious heritage of that country.

WAKH: Nation 'Seriously Considering' Arms for Oil

GF111900 Manama WAKH in English 1635 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 11 (WAKH) — Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah has said that H.H. the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad had listened during his visit to the ministry headquarters yesterday to a detailed explanation on the Army's preparations to defend Kuwait's internal and external security.

Shaykh Salim added in a statement to daily *AL-SIYASAH* published Tuesday that H.H. had reviewed the advanced army weapons and training methods on each with senior Army officers.

Asked on the Army's participation in the national day celebrations, Shaykh Salim said that the Armed Forces will organize a number of air, sea, and land parades.

The minister stressed that Kuwait was seriously considering to purchase arms in return for oil shipments in future describing such transaction as worth considering. He denied, however, that Kuwait will soon receive new weapons.

Asked on his recent visit to Jordan, Shaykh Salim said that the trip was in response to an invitation from King Husayn to attend opening of the military command and staff academy particularly when Kuwait had contributed in building the academy.

He noted that developing bilateral military cooperation was discussed during the visit.

OMAN

Foreign Ministry Calls for End to Iranian Offensive

GF111335 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has issued the following statement:

The Sultanate of Oman has followed with extreme regret the eruption of battles once again between Iran and Iraq. The Sultanate has noticed that the Iranian offensive was designed against the territories of sister Iraq. This practice violates the bases of international law which does not approve of the occupation of territories of countries by armed force.

The Sultanate calls upon Iran to stop its military offensives and to respond to the mediations being made to solve the difference through peaceful means.

PDRY

Aden Reports Burial of Martyrs of 13 Jan

GF111432 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Monitored with fair reception on 11770 khz and with unmonitorable reception on 7190 khz and 1188 khz]

[Text] In an atmosphere of mourning, our Yemeni masses today escorted to their final resting place the martyrs of the ominous 13 January, their glorious sons, martyrs of the party and the homeland who fell while defending the party and revolution and who aborted the ominous 13 January conspiracy masterminded by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous clique.

Four armored vehicles carried the martyrs 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, Salih Muslih Qasim, and 'Ali Sha'i'. Meanwhile other mourners carried the bodies of the martyr members of the YSP Central Committee, party cadres, and the honest strugglers of our people.

The mourning march was led by an honor guard and the Armed Forces brass band which played mourning music. The mourners were led by brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau, and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium; Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the YSP Political Bureau, and chairman of the Council of Ministers; the families of the martyrs; members of the YSP Central Committee; ministers; and party and state officials.

Our mourning masses chanted slogans denouncing the coupist attempt led by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous gang designed to physically liquidate members of the YSP Political Bureau and the YSP Central Committee, the honest struggling cadres of the party and the sons of our people and thus liquidate our party and our progressive system, undermining all of the accomplishments of the revolution achieved by the blood of thousands of martyrs.

It is worth mentioning that the burial of the martyrs of the ominous 13 January coincides with 11 February, the martyrs' day of the revolution in our country, during which the party and the government annually immortalize the memory of the martyrs of our party and revolution.

Mourning Rallies Held

GF111847 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Monitored with fair reception on 1188 khz, with poor reception on 11770 khz, and with unmonitorable reception on 7190 khz]

[Text] Symbolic mourning rallies were staged today in Al-Mukalla with the participation of great masses from the districts of of Al-Mukalla, Al-Sharfa, and Hijr who mourned for their glorious sons, the martyrs of the party and the homeland who fell while protecting the party and revolution and who aborted the bloody 13 January conspiracy led by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his conspiratoral gang.

The mourning march was led by Brother Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the YSP Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of energy and minerals; and Salim Muhammad Jubran, member of the YSP Central Committee, and first secretary of the party organization in Hadramawat Governorate.

Following the mourning march, Brother Salim Jubran delivered a speech in which he praised the heroic stance of the members of the YSP Political Bureau and the military and security institutions in aborting this unsuccessful coupist conspiracy.

He reaffirmed that the masses of the governorate will follow the same path followed by our heroic martyrs, and will support the party's constitutional legitimacy.

Meanwhile, a speech was delivered on behalf of the popular organizations to denounce the unsuccessful coupist conspiracy.

The speech reviewed the heroic, immortal merits of the historic leaders of the Yemeni revolution who were martyred while defending the party, the revolution, and the homeland.

Aden Reports Press Conference of PDRY Chairman

GF111629 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Monitored with poor reception on 1188 khz and 11770 khz; and with unmonitorable reception on 7190 khz]

[Text] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has expressed great pride and has highly evaluated the friendship which links our country with the socialist countries, foremost being the friendly Soviet Union.

During a press conference this morning before a number of journalists from socialist countries, Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas praised the stances of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries which support the PDRY and the humanitarian aid they gave in order for us to overcome the effects of the unsuccessful coupist conspiracy. He affirmed that the party and state would work, over the next period, to eliminate the economic and social effects which have resulted from the unsuccessful coupist conspiracy led by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his treacherous clique. He stated that they would also continue to seek to achieve the economic and social development of the national socialist revolution to rebuild the party; to consolidate the ideological, organizational, and political unity; and to enhance the unity of the people and the party's relationship with the masses.

Brother 'Attas has exposed the dangerous practices and methods of conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous clique designed to distort the policy of the party in all fields. He added: Among these were his practices against the customs of the party, his contempt for the class struggle which our masses had charged him with, his support for the clashes under the divisionist and tribal slogans, his encouragement and support for the counterrevolutionary elements, his giving them access to a number of institutions and positions, and his nonadherence to the decisions of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee.

Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr Al-'Attas referred to the bloody and painful events witnessed by the PDRY as a result of the unsuccessful coupist conspiracy on 13 Jaunary designed to beat the YSP through attempts to liquidate a number of its experienced leaders and cadres and to divert the line of the revolution. He also referred to the role of the members of the party and the masses to abort the conspiracy and overcome its effects. He stated that the YSP, its goals, and its principles would remain steadfast, and that its leadership represented by the YSP Political Bureau, and the YSP Central Committee are determined to continue the march of economic and social development.

YSP Secretary General Receives Soviet Ambassador

GF111252 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Monitored with fair reception on 11770 khz; unheard on 1188 khz and 7190 khz]

[Text] Today, Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, received Comrade Vladislav Petrovich Zhukov, ambassador of the friendly Soviet Union in Aden.

During the meeting, the brother secretary general received an invitation from the CPSU Central Committee extended to the YSP Central Committee to attend the works of the 27th CPSU Congress scheduled to convene on 25 February.

Foreign Minister Receives Indian Envoy

GF111638 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Monitored with poor reception on 1188, and 11770 khz and with unmonitorable reception 7190 khz]

[Text] This afternoon Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister, received in his office David Manners, the Indian ambassador in Aden.

During the meeting, Brother al-Dali explained in detail the events witnessed by the PDRY as the result of the unsuccessful coupist conspiracy led by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique on 13 January.

The brother foreign minister explained that the conspiracy has inflicted great human and financial damage. He affirmed the PDRY's keenness to continue cooperative ties with the friendly Republic of India and to consolidate and develop them further for the benefit of the joint interests of the friendly peoples of both countries.

Ministers Discuss Reconstruction Measures

GF112000 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Monitored with good reception on 1188 khz, with fair reception on 11770 khz and with unmonitorable reception on 7190 khz]

[Text] A joint meeting was held at the Secretariat of the Ministry of Installations and Housing today.

The meeting was attended by the officials of the ministry departments and was chaired by Brother Muhammad Ahmad Salman, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of installations and housing.

The meeting was also attended by Dr Muhammad Ahmad Jirghum, minister of culture and information; Dr Sa'id Sharaf, minister of public health; Dr Ahmad 'Ali Muqbil, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform.

During the meeting, they discussed measures to reconstruct the capital, government installations, and the residences of the citizens damaged as a result of the futile coup attempt led by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his fascist clique on 13 January.

AL-ANBA' Reports Arrest of Former PDRY Officials

GF111834 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic
9 Feb 86 pp 1, 26

['Adnan al-Rashid dispatch from Aden]

[Excerpt] A high-ranking Yemeni source has revealed to *AL-ANBA'* that the authorities in Aden have arrested Colonel Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Batani, former minister of interior; 'Alawi Husayn Farhan, former deputy minister of state security; Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Husayn Musa, former commander of the Air Force and Air Defense; Lieutenant Colonel Ahmad 'Abdallah al-Hasani, commander of the naval force and nephew of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad; and Salih Ahmad al-Bakhish, commander of the militias, after it was proven that they were involved in the recent events.

The source added that it has been proven that the ministers of health, agriculture, and state security had escaped with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. Abu Bakr Ba Dhib, Anis Hasan Yahya, and 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, members of the YSP Political Bureau, also escaped.

AL-ITTIHAD Reports PLO Representative Expelled

GF121026 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1010 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Feb (WAKH) — UAE press reports said today that the new collective leadership in the PDRY expelled 'Abbas Zaki, representative of the PLO in Aden, 2 days ago.

The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* quoted high-level sources as saying that the deportation came following the new leadership's accusation to him of "intervening in the events which took place there last month on the side of Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad."

YSP Official Says Coup Originally Planned for 1985

GF111711 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Monitored on 1188 khz with fair reception and on 11770 khz with poor/unmonitorable reception on 7190 khz]

[Text] Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, announced that what has been carried out by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his coupist gang on ominous 13 January was planned for 9 May of last year.

This came in an interview with him by the correspondent of the news agency PRENSA LATINA.

Brother Muhsin explained the historical background of the conspiracy engineered and plotted by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his fascist gang on bloody ominous 13 January. Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin praised the aid given to the PDRY by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

YSP Meeting Under 'Ali Nasir Reportedly Expected

GF111612 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
11 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] Addis Ababa — Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has returned to Addis Ababa after visits to Libya, Syria, and Algeria. A responsible source who accompanied 'Ali Nasir during his recent visits to the three countries stated that the talks held by 'Ali Nasir with the leaders of these countries will have positive effects on the development of events in Aden. He stated that preparations are under way to hold a meeting of the YSP Political Bureau and the YSP Central Committee under the chairmanship of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the party. The source expects that the meeting will be held before the end of this month and after the arrival of all the Central Committee members who are abroad.

'Ali Nasir Reportedly Issues Proposals

GF121018 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic
0930 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad [title as heard] has said that he has made five proposals in order to achieve a political solution to the power struggle in the PDRY.

In an interview published today by the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, he added that the rejection of these proposals will lead to instability and the renewal of fighting. He said that the YAR, Ethiopia, and the USSR are trying to find a political settlement to the conflict. He said that he is waiting for a response to his proposals through these countries.

He said that his proposals include extending an invitation to the YSP Central Committee to hold a plenum meeting in order to judge who has been causing such events since 1984 and until the day of the coup on 13 January.

The YSP Central Committee would then elect a new secretary general and a new YSP Political Bureau. Preparations would continue to elect a Supreme People's Council and then the council would elect a chief of state [as heard] and a chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and name a new government.

The proposals also include the establishment of a military committee, to be formed from among individuals from the two sides who did not participate in the events, in order to supervise the reorganization of the military and security institutions.

The proposals also include putting an end to physical liquidations and arrests.

Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said that these proposals represent the minimum requirement for restoring the unity of the party and people.

He expressed hope that efforts being made by the friends and brothers will succeed. He affirmed that he still possesses his military strength in the governorates and other locations inside the country.

QATAR

Cabinet Urges Peaceful Negotiations of Iran-Iraq War

GF121116 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, chaired the ordinary weekly Cabinet meeting at Al-Dawhah Palace today.

The Cabinet issued the following statement: Qatar expresses its profound regret and deep concern over the serious escalation in the Iraq-Iran war, the great dangers that might result from it, the threatening of the security and stability of the whole region, the further destruction in the two countries, and the human, economic, and material losses to which it will lead. In addition this escalation subjects the whole region to the dangers of foreign intervention.

Qatar, which has always held the hope that the Arab and international efforts and those of the Islamic good offices committee, and particularly the efforts made by the GCC, would succeed in exerting bridges of understanding and peaceful settlement between the two neighborly Muslim countries, and which has been encouraged in this hope by the positive stand of Iraq, appeals again to the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran to respond to the call of peace and to follow the path of peaceful negotiation and amicable understanding in order to achieve a settlement that will secure the legitimate rights of the two sides.

Qatar urges the whole international community to initiate new, positive, and active efforts in order to assist Iraq and Iran to solve their conflict by peaceful means.

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal Leaves for Iraq

GF121032 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Riyadh this morning for Baghdad to attend the emergency Arab 7-member committee meeting called for by Iraq following recent attacks against its territories.

UAE

Iranian Attack Said To Contradict 'Peaceful Efforts'

GF112042 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2015 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 Feb (WAKH) — The UAE expressed its concern over Iran's recent attack against Iraq and said that it contradicts the peaceful efforts being exerted to find a peaceful and just solution that maintains the rights of the two countries.

In a statement issued tonight, an official source at the UAE Foreign Ministry said that the UAE followed the news on the recent Iranian attack against sister Iraq designed to occupy parts of its territories and get at its sovereignty and independence. It also disturbs the stability and security of the Arab Gulf region and subjects it to threats of foreign intervention.

It added that this attack contradicts the peaceful efforts being exerted by the Islamic Good Offices Committee emanating from the ICO and the efforts of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement designed to find a peaceful and just solution that maintains the rights of the two neighboring Muslim countries and spares their human and material capabilities to resist our joint enemy.

The source pointed out Iraq's response to all of the peace appeals and called on Iran to put an end to the invasion, to respect the sovereignty and independence of Iraq, and to abide by the resolutions of the United Nations, the ICO, and the Nonaligned Movement, which call for the end to the fighting and the resolution of differences between the two countries by peaceful means.

Maltese Foreign Minister Arrives on Brief Visit

GF100933 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 Feb (WAKH) — Maltese Foreign Affairs Minister Alex Sceberra Trigona arrived in Abu Dhabi today, coming from Kuwait, on a brief visit to the UAE within the framework of a tour he is undertaking to a number of the region's countries.

Upon his arrival, the Maltese minister stated that he will exchange views with state officials on a number of issues pertaining to the developments in the Mediterranean basin and in the Gulf region, in addition to bolstering bilateral relations.

In the statement he made to WAM, he lauded the UAE position toward the current issues in the international arena and its pioneer role in bolstering development and peace in the world.

Received by Minister of State

GF101734 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 Feb (WAKH) — UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah discussed here today with his Maltese counterpart Alex Trigona bilateral relations and the situation in the Gulf and the Mediterranean.

Mr Trigona expressed Malta's desire to promote cooperation relations with GCC states and the Arab League and hoped that the UAE would exert efforts to enhance this desire.

The Maltese minister also pointed out that there are various fields for expanding economic cooperation with Arab countries especially in the petroleum products and said that his government welcomes investment of Arab capital in Malta.

Concludes Visit, Departs
GF111152 Doha QNA in Arabic 0745 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 11 Feb (QNA) — Maltese Foreign Affairs Minister Alex Trigona left Abu Dhabi early today for home via London after concluding a 2-day visit to the UAE. During the visit he discussed means to bolster bilateral economic and investment relations in addition to the situation in the Mediterranean basin.

YAR

President Telephones Iraqi Counterpart
GF112021 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, telephoned his brother His Excellency Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of sister Iraq. SABA' news agency has learned that the Iraqi president has assured the brother president and secretary general on the situation in Iraq and affirmed to him that the Iraqi forces were able to confront the hostile Iranian attack against Iraq.

For his part the brother president and secretary general affirmed to his Brother Saddam Husayn that the Yemeni people stand by the side of the Iraqi people in confronting the attack and defending the pure Arab territories. The brother president also affirmed that any tresspassing across the international borders by the Iranian forces in the Iraqi territories is considered trespassing on all Arab territories and that the freedom, security, and safety of the Arab territories is one and cannot be separated.

Foreign Minister Leaves for Baghdad Meeting
GF121046 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee, left for Baghdad today in order to participate in the meetings of the seven-member committee formed by the Islamic Foreign ministers conference and which is charged with following up the developments of the Iraq-Iran war.

Mubarak Views Economy, Politics at Party Seminar

NC111422 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] President Husni Mubarak today opened a political seminar organized by the NDP's National Studies Center. The seminar was attended by the NDP district and sub-district secretaries throughout the republic. According to Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif, President Mubarak declared that there is no going back on democracy. He, however, will do his duty if he feels that democracy is being threatened. Democracy, he asserted, should serve the people's interest.

President Mubarak also discussed a number of economic issues and explained Egypt's circumstances within the world economy. He also explained the world economic crisis, which is affecting both industrialized and developing states. President Mubarak noted that Egyptians are facing difficult circumstances but that they are correcting the situation and resorting to various alternatives. The aim is to maintain the rates of growth and the prices of basic commodities for low-income groups.

The president detailed the effects of the fall in world oil prices on Egypt's revenue, as well as the effects of the oil-producing states' economic recession on Egyptian currency transfers and on the revenues from the Suez Canal. President Mubarak also stressed the importance of tourism, which is a source of national income.

He called for sincere dialogue among political parties and said that they must be above vituperation. He also stressed that the government wants to locate and refer anyone who has erred to the Egyptian courts, which are known for their impartiality. He stated that one-upmanship must be shunned, and urged NDP members to act on the basis of logic and evidence.

AL-AHRAM Says Mubarak To Meet Husayn, 'Arafat

PM111449 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition
in Arabic 8 Feb 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Mubarak, Husayn to Meet in Cairo This Month to Boost Peace Process"]

[Text] *AL-AHRAM*'s political editor has learned that it has been agreed to hold a meeting between President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan. No date has been set for the meeting but it is expected to be held this month. It will be in the context of the continuous consultations between Cairo and Amman on current Arab issues and the concerted efforts made by Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO to reactivate and boost the peace process in the Middle East including promotion of a just settlement for the Palestinian question.

AL-AHRAM's political editor has also learned that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit Cairo shortly and meet with President Mubarak. What is certain is that 'Arafat's visit will not take place at the same time as King Husayn's visit. The two visits are separate and there will be no tripartite conference by the three leaders.

During their meeting Mubarak and 'Arafat will discuss Egyptian-Palestinian relations, Jordanian-Palestinian joint moves, and developments related to the current international contacts, particularly those made in Amman on alternative options available to Jordan and the PLO regarding the question of convening an international conference and PLO participation in the peace negotiations.

At the top of the agenda will be the question of PLO representation at the international conference, which, apparently, is becoming more and more acceptable an idea to the various parties concerned, and the proposal made by President Mubarak in his 28 January speech to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. In these proposals, President Mubarak called for a European active role in making arrangements for an international peace conference by forming a group and entrusting it with the task of contacting the various sides concerned and bridging their views on matters that still prevent agreement. On his proposals the president also concentrated on the need for Europe to establish a balance between Israel's right to exist and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Mubarak Meets Gabonese Foreign Affairs Minister

NC111138 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] President Husni Mubarak met today with the Gabonese minister of state for foreign affairs [Martin Bongo] and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Joint Statement Issued

NC111754 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 11 Feb (MENA) — Egypt and Gabon have emphasized the importance of dialogue and negotiations in reaching permanent solutions for Africa's problems and saving the continent from oreign interference and attempts at destabilization. This came in a joint Egyptian-Gabonese statement released in Cairo this evening at the conclusion of a visit to Egypt by Martin Bongo, Gabonese minister of state for foreign affairs.

Both sides highlighted the need for the prompt and unconditional implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435, which provides for Namibia's independence. They emphasized their total support for national liberation movements in South Africa, for SWAPO, and for the African Frontline States.

The joint statement asserts both countries' belief that if there is to be a just and permanent peace in the Middle East, the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination, must be recognized, and Israel must withdraw from all Arab territory occupied since June 1967, including Arab Jerusalem.

Further on Visit by Malagasy Foreign Minister

Meets With Mubarak

NC111138 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received the Malagasy foreign minister [Jean Bemananjara] this morning. The meeting was attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs. The Malagasy foreign minister later stated that he had conveyed a message to President Mubarak from the Malagasy president. He added that at their meeting he and the president discussed international issues in general, African affairs, and ways of bolstering the various fields of bilateral relations.

Holds Talks With Ghali

NC111139 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 11 Feb (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today held official talks with Malagasy Foreign Minister Jean Bemananjara, who is visiting Egypt.

The two officials reviewed all African political and economic issues, particularly the situation in South Africa, Namibia, and the deteriorating economy. They also talked about the two countries' coordination at the African ministerial council meetings due to be held in Addis Ababa in the last week of February. Coordination was also discussed with respect to the UN-sponsored conference to be held in May on the subject of Africa's economic situation and the conference to be held in June under the auspices of the United Nations, the OAU, and the Nonaligned Movement to decide on far-reaching sanctions against South Africa's racist government. The two ministers also focused on means of bolstering bilateral relations in various fields.

The talks were attended by Ambassador Ahmad Sidqi, director of the African Department at the Foreign Ministry; Ambassador 'Ali Mahir, director of the Minister's Office; and members of the Malagasy delegation.

Joint Statement Issued

NC111832 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 11 Feb (MENA) — Madagascar has expressed its full support for President Husni Mubarak's efforts to secure a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East based on the achievement of the Palestinian people's national rights. This was contained in a joint statement issued today to mark the visit to Egypt of Malagasy Foreign Minister Jean Bemananjara.

The document stressed that the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination under the leadership of the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative, must be recognized. In their joint statement, Egypt and Madagascar reaffirmed their commitment to the principles of nonalignment, and agreed to support the Nonaligned Movement and its role on the international scene.

They also pledged to deal with the economic problems facing Africa and to coordinate their activity in promoting the special UN General Assembly session that will be held in May to discuss these difficulties. The two countries emphasized that they believe in the OAU and abide by its charter. In addition, they agreed to back international efforts to eliminate the racist regime in South countries emphasized that they believe UN Security Council Resolution 435 on Namibia.

Further on Negotiations Over Tabah Issue

Mubarak Comments

NC111520 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 11 Feb (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has stressed that all aspects of the Tabah issue will be up for discussion during the talks between Egypt and Israel. He made this remark at a meeting today with NDP leaders from a number of Egyptian governorates. Mubarak used the session to discuss several questions affecting the Middle East, with special emphasis on developments in the Iraq-Iran conflict and the Palestinian issue.

Mubarak also reviewed topics related to national action in Egypt. He stressed the need to avoid one-upsmanship as a tactic. Egypt, he said, is not a corrupt country, as certain Arab newspapers have claimed. These papers can exercise freedom of the press in their own countries only where Egypt is concerned. Mubarak had sharp words for the policy of mistaken criticism, which certain people follow when discussing Egypt's problems. This type of criticism distorts the image of Egyptian society. He pointed out that foreign media exploit this erroneous way of dealing with problems to distort Egypt's image. He affirmed that the Egyptian people have their own values and ethics, and that Egypt enjoys stability, liberty, rule of law, and freedom of the press. He noted that Egypt has preserved its dignity and national will.

Mubarak asserted that we will never hesitate or go back on democracy. He declared that democracy is not a gift, but is a principle, doctrine, and Constitution. He added: Therefore, we are eager to create a climate conducive to the promotion of democracy and the consolidation of its traditions. He pointed out that when he sounds the alarm, he does so out of a sense of responsibility and with far-sightedness when he perceives any threat to democracy. He expressed his belief that democracy must serve the Egyptian people and their interests. He asserted that freedom must go hand in hand with responsibility, so that it will not harm the freedom of others and so that society can satisfy the people's aspirations and work for their present and future in a climate that is both stable and free.

Mubarak made it clear that the facts will never be hidden from the Egyptian people. Actions are taken and decisions are made in broad daylight on the people's behalf. Covering up corruption or delaying the implementation of the judiciary's verdicts brings no benefits. He went on to say that the state apparatus is eager to pursue any wrongdoer, and to bring him to justice. He stressed that the Egyptian judiciary is inviolable, and that no one may interfere in its affairs.

Mubarak referred to the state of Egypt's economy, which, as part of the world economy, is affected by crises that involve both the big powers and the developing countries. He also commented on the recession facing those countries rich in oil. He said: We in Egypt are facing a difficult situation, and are adjusting ourselves to it. We have resorted to several options in order to maintain our growth rate and keep prices of basic commodities down for those with low incomes.

Delegation Leaves for Israel

NC112141 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Egypt's delegation to the Tabah talks, led by Ambassador Nabil al-'Arabi, director of the Foreign Ministry's Legal Department, left Cairo [for Israel] this evening. Mr Mahmud 'Uthman, the delegation's official spokesman, has announced that the group received instructions today from Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. His guidance dealt with the course that should be followed at the new round of talks scheduled to begin tomorrow.

It is worth noting that the Egyptian delegation's attention remains focused on reaching a formula that will cover arrangements for international arbitration of the Tabah issue. The Egyptian team also intends to give priority to certain bilateral questions of concern to Egypt, particularly the demand that the Coptic Church be allowed to regain control of the Al-Sultan monastery.

Israeli Envoy Leaves for Israel

LD112231 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 11 Feb (MENA) — Israeli ambassador to Cairo Moshe Sasson left Cairo this evening for Israel on the occasion of the second round of talks on Tabah that are due to begin tomorrow in Tel Aviv.

Foreign Ministry Praises U.S. Comment on Palestinians

LD112200 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo 11 Feb (MENA) — The official spokesman of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has stated that Egypt welcomes the declaration by the official spokesman for the U.S. State Department that the Palestinian question is more than a question of refugees, and that there should not be any ambiguity between Resolution 242 and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, which are complementary to the resolution in question, and must be taken into consideration in any negotiations concerning the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

In a statement issued tonight, the source further says that, on this occasion, Egypt reaffirms that the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, prime among which is its right to self-determination, constitute the necessary balance factor between the interests of the Palestinian people and Israel's right to existence, and are considered the cornerstone in any all-round settlement that would uproot the conflict.

The official spokesman for the Egyptian Foreign Ministry further said: Egypt, which has for so long urged the United States and all the international friendly forces to respond to the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, considers this American stance a positive development that could contribute to adding momentum to the march of peace, and to the elimination of the vicious circle of violence, war, and destruction.

Egypt believes these positive positions, which grasp the core of the conflict in the Middle East, enable the United States to assume its required role as a full partner in the peace process. Egypt is convinced that this positive move will have beneficial repercussions on the respective positions of the interested parties, and will lead to paving the way for the start of peace negotiations.

Article Says U.S. Must Recognize Palestinian People

PM111205 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 8 Feb 86 p 16

[Ahmad Baha' al-Din article: "Diary"]

[Text] How can the PLO be expected to trust U.S. "promises" in view of the long U.S. record vis-a-vis the Palestinian question? In the 40 years since 1945, since Truman, there has not been a single U.S. stand that could be described as even vaguely fair, even before terrorism appeared and even when 'Arafat was still in school.

The side that should demonstrate good will is the United States not the Palestinian people. We understand that all the PLO wants from the United States now is a recognition of the "the Palestinian people's right to self-determination." If the United States does not want to give 'Arafat anything, not even a semblance of recognition — because it has promised Israel that it will not, and the United States is renowed for keeping its promises!! — then why does the United States not declare that it recognizes the Palestinian people's right to self-determination without addressing its recognition of Yasir 'Arafat or the PLO? This is the least it should do to demonstrate good will. In this case, the United States would only be recognizing a general principle not linked to any leader or organization. The right of self-determination is the most basic right for any people at any time. We could understand a refusal to recognize a leader or a government, but to reject an entire people is unprecedented.

What is required is an open and official recognition of "the Palestinian people's right to self-determination." Can one claim that only certain nations are entitled to self-determination and that others are not? The Palestinian people have proved their existence through peace for a long time to no avail and they have proved it through war but only reaped anger. So, what are the Palestinian people supposed to do to please the United States, and why all this tension and nervousness whenever these six words "the Palestinian people's right to self-determination" are mentioned? What way is there for reaching the Palestinian people other than recognizing them?

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Saddam Briefs 'Arafat

JN111817 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The president explained to 'Arafat the situation at the battlefront and the valiant Iraqi Armed Forces' success in crushing the Iranian enemy's attempts to occupy Iraqi territory.

Yasir 'Arafat reiterated the Palestinian people's stand on the side of the heroic Iraqi Army in its defense of the Arab nation's eastern flank, asserting that defending Iraq's territory is a defense of the Palestine question and Jerusalem.

The two sides also discussed all recent developments related to the Jordanian-Palestinian political move and the U.S. attempt to evade recognizing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Hani al-Hasan, 'Arafat's political adviser, attended the meeting.

Al-Miqdad Forces Battle Enemy

JN120833 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0750 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Radio team 12 February interview with Staff Brigadier General 'Abd al-Zahra Shkara al-Maliki, commander of Al-Miqdad forces under III Army Corps sector — recorded]

[Text] The Iranian enemy sent large numbers of what remained of its forces into the furnace of death on three axes on the heroic Al-Miqdad Forces front last night and at dawn today. However, the Iraqi fighters' determination foiled the enemy's plan. The radio team once again greets you and brings you good tidings of victory from a forward position. The radio team interviewed Staff Brigadier General 'Abd al-Zahra Shkara al-Maliki, commander of the heroic al-Miqdad Forces:

[Begin recording] After that the Iranian enemy sustained heavy losses in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basra, under the command of Al-Miqdad Forces and in the (Talhat al-'Aghawat) area thanks to the deadly blows our forces dealt to the enemy in yesterday's battles. After that, the enemy was expelled from the area where one of our companies was stationed. Later, this area was liberated following fierce fighting in which many enemy troops were killed or wounded.

The enemy carried out a new offensive on three axes in the sector under the command of the heroic Al-Miqdad Forces at 0200 [2300 GMT 11 February] today. In this offensive the enemy used boats, infantry, artillery, and tanks. However, we were lying in wait for the enemy.

While announcing that the enemy has been wiped out in this sector, we once again bring good tidings to the leader of the march and the struggle, President Saddam Husayn, may God protect him. Our fighters confronted the enemy man to man, using light weapons and hand grenades. We will continue to defend our land because it is part of our dignity. From this forward position, we pledge our allegiance to President Saddam Husayn.

Here I would like to point out the role of Staff Major General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid, commander of the III Army Corps, who insisted on being at the head of the fighters. [end recording]

Phantom Reportedly Shot Down

JN120846 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0843 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — INA has learned from a military source that the Iraqi Armed Forces shot down an Iranian plane today. The source said that the Iranian Phantom was shot down over the southern sector and was seen crashing in flames over Iranian territory.

Communique No 2,113 Issued

JN111802 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Communique No 2,113 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 11 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Out of their loyalty to the people and their leader and to the good, pure soil, our valiant Armed Forces are continuing their heroic confrontation and pursuit of the forces of aggression, striking with the hands of men the enemy dens and concentrations, raising panic and inflicting death on the collapsing Khomeyniite remnants, and continuing their God-supported march toward the targets fixed for them in accordance with the plans and timetables of their command.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. After our valiant forces managed, with the help of God and with the determination of the men and resolution of the commanders, to completely purge Umm al-Rasas Island and to destroy the enemy on it, our forces completed the reorganization of their positions and the situation on the liberated island was decisively and totally settled in favor of our triumphant forces.

The enemy's confirmed losses in the battle liberating the island amounted to 500 dead and a much larger number of wounded and captured Iranians. Large quantities of weaponry and equipment, some of which were serviceable, were seized.

2. Our gigantic Air Force planes continued to pour the Iraqis' wrath down upon the aggressors. The valiant eagles of the air today poured their bombs on the heads of the enemies, inflicting massive losses in 355 combat missions against enemy concentrations, transportation routes, and supply lines in the VII Army Corps sector.

At 1530 [1230 GMT] today our Air Force carried out a raid on the Ganaveh pipeline intersection complex, setting their targets ablaze. After carrying out all these missions, our brave eagles returned to base with their aircraft both safe and triumphant, praise be to God.

3. Our forces in other parts of the VII Army Corps sector continue to advance firmly toward their set targets. Meanwhile, the enemy forces continued to retreat before our forces' sacred march, sustaining massive losses in personnel. Our forces in this sector, with the equipment they possess and with the splendid air and artillery support they enjoy, will present their gift to the great people in the form of a strong victory which will break the backs of the enemy and expose its falsehood and lies to its people. The harbinger of glad tidings will loudly announce the victory granted by God. Such a victory is imminent.

4. The forces of the heroic III Army Corps wiped out the aggressors in the last foothold they had on its right flank, and these forces are now in full control of the operational theater in the entire Army Corps sector. Meanwhile, the enemy remnants licked their wounds in a state of frustration and defeat. The enemy confirmed losses in this sector were as follows:

a. 1,978 enemy troops were killed, in addition to thousands of wounded and large numbers of prisoners.

b. 13 tanks and 1 armored personnel carrier were destroyed.

c. 21 boats were destroyed opposite the valiant Al-Miqdad shock-troop unit.

d. 7 vehicles were destroyed.

God bless the men of the III Army Corps — commanders, officers, and other ranks.

5. The valiant cavaliers of the helicopter gunships poured their fire down on enemy concentrations and supplies, inflicting massive losses on enemy remnants and weapons through 134 combat missions in the VII Army Corps sector. They then returned safely and triumphantly to base.

God is great; praised be God for His support. Blessed be the hands of the men.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 February 1986

Further on Shatt al-'Arab Fighting

JN121125 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1045 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Brothers, a military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With the intensification of fighting, the true mettle of the Iraqi knights is manifested through their strong arms to defend the land, values, and principles of Iraq and the Arab nation. That's how they fought the enemy yesterday and today.

The enemy, after receiving reinforcements, carried out a large-scale offensive against our units last night. The fighters of our heroic Army foiled all its attacks and inflicted heavy losses. In the early hours of today, and while units at the front continued to put pressure on the enemy in (Ra's al-Bisha) and (Al-Ma'amir) area, a heroic force under Lieutenant Colonel Khadr 'Ali 'Abdallah carried out a resolute offensive against enemy forces from the west, where the enemy's left flank is located. After inflicting heavy losses on the enemy forces, the enemy was forced to withdraw in a disorganized manner in order to reduce its left flank.

Glorious Iraqis, you know the consequences resulting from the enemy's massing of forces to confront our forces across Shatt al-'Arab while Shatt al-'Arab is behind it and our heroic forces are pressuring it from the front. That's why the fighting will be serious. However, we would like to reassure you that your zealous sons hold the upper hand. Defeat is the inevitable fate of your enemy. It will then curse those parties who have dragged it into this battle on our coast. God is great and ignominy to the vile clique. [Dated] 12 February 1986

Further Denial of Al-Faw Siege

JN111637 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Feb (INA) — Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah telephoned his Iraqi counterpart Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah today inquiring about the military situation at the battlefront. The Iraqi minister told the Kuwaiti defense minister that the Iraqi military situation is strong. He denied Iranian claims about the Iranian forces' siege of the Al-Faw area.

'Source' Denies Threats Made To Strike Tehran City

JN112007 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1951 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Feb (INA) — An Iraqi source has denied threatening to strike at Tehran or any other Iranian city. In a statement to INA tonight, the source said that Iraq's stance in this regard is known. He added that once Iraq threatens to do something it carries out its threat as proven by previous experience.

The president of the Iranian regime today claimed that Iraq has threatened to strike at Tehran and that despite this threat the Iranians took to the streets to demonstrate.

Arab League Committee To Meet in Baghdad 12 Feb

JN111858 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad — The Arab committee formed by the Arab League Council to follow up the Iranian-Iraqi war will meet in Baghdad tomorrow, Wednesday, to discuss the new Iranian aggression against Iraq. Arab league sources said Secretary

General Chedli Klibi and Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi will leave Tunis tomorrow morning to participate in meetings of the committee which consists of the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, the YAR, and Iraq.

These sources added that the committee will discuss Arab measures which should be adopted in the wake of the new Iranian aggression which poses a threat to the security of several Arab countries. The committee will also study some proposals which maintain sound Arab stands on the side of Iraq.

Yesterday, Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, sent a message to the Arab League secretary general requesting an urgent meeting of the committee.

Jordan's Al-Masri Arrives

JN112045 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2025 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Feb (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met tonight with Tahir al-Masri, foreign minister of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. They discussed the latest developments in the Iranian aggression against Iraq and affairs related to the meeting of the Arab committee in charge of following up developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

Tahir al-Masri arrived in Baghdad this evening to participate in the committee meetings which will begin in Baghdad tomorrow. He was received by Tariq 'Aziz, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Nuri Isma'il al-Wayyis, and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

King Husayn Contacts Iraqi President on War

JN101627 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn contacted Iraqi President Saddam Husayn by telephone this evening. During the conversation, his majesty reiterated Jordan's support for fraternal Iraq's courageous stand in the face of the Iranian regime's aggression, as well as for Iraq's determination to and capability of confronting the flagrant Iranian aggression.

His majesty was reassured by President Saddam about developments in the military situation on the Iraqi-Iranian front. President Saddam Husayn affirmed that the Iraqi Army is bravely confronting the Iranian agression and is continuing to crush it and achieve victory over it.

Receives Call From Iraqi President

JN111236 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received a telephone call from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn at noon today. President Saddam Husayn reassured the king about the strength of Iraq's military position on the battlefields. He also acquainted the king with the Iraqi Army's triumphant battles against the Iranian aggressive waves. President Saddam informed King Husayn of the good news that the valiant Iraqi Army had managed to purge Umm al-Rassas Island of the remnants of the aggressors and that it is now repulsing the Iranian forces, scoring a clear victory.

His Majesty King Husayn expressed his pride and that of Jordan in the victory of the Iraqi Army and people in the just battle which they are waging in defense of their land and the honor of their nation, affirming that Iraq's victory is a victory for the entire Arab nation.

Foreign Minister Al-Masri Voices Support for Iraq

JN101641 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has stated that Jordan is following with great concern reports about the new Iranian aggression against fraternal Iraq and about the brave Iraqi Armed Forces' confrontation of the aggression in the Al-Basrah and Shatt al-'Arab sectors.

He added: While it greets Iraq's position and its brave soldiers in confronting this aggression, Jordan is fully confident that this new Iranian aggression will face the same fate of previous aggressions and will be repulsed, God willing. In this regard, we are interested in reiterating our principled stand supporting fraternal Iraq in its war against the Iranian aggression and in its efforts to put an end to this destructive war through peaceful means, which Iran has always rejected.

Concluding his statement, he said: The continuation of the war and Iran's insistence on rejecting all peaceful efforts to end the war require all of us to adopt a unified stand in supporting Iraq. Arabs are called upon more than anyone else to support Iraq politically, morally, and materially. We also urge Islamic countries, nonaligned countries, and all countries in the world to effectively contribute to putting an end to this war which is threatening the entire region and endangering world peace.

Prime Minister Receives Yasir 'Arafat

JN061917 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at his house this evening. The meeting was attended by Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Court; 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, [PLO Executive Committee member]; and Hani al-Hasan, [PLO political adviser.]

'Arafat Ends Visit, Departs

JN080618 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Amman — Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, left Amman last night after a 2-week visit to Jordan during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn, Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, and a number of senior Jordanian officials and discussed with them the Arab situation, current developments, and ways to reach a peaceful settlement in the region through an international peace conference.

He was seen off by Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali and Occupied Land Affairs Minister Tahir Kan'an. He was also seen off by a number of senior PLO officials.

Brigadier General 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee member; Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to Mr 'Arafat; and Nabil 'Amr, 'Arafat's information adviser, left with 'Arafat.

Central Bank Denies Intention To Devalue Dinar

JN101206 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 10 Feb 86 pp 1, 20

[By 'Imad al-Humud]

[Excerpts] Dr Mahir Shukri, Central Bank deputy governor, has denied that the bank intends to devalue the dinar pointing out that the value of the dinar this year and last year is real and not inflated. In reply to a question from *AL-RA'Y*, Dr Shukri said that technically there is nothing at all to justify the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar because the financial situation is a hundred percent sound.

Dr Shukri said that the new instructions aim at reducing the banks' dependency on the Central Bank, modernizing equipment and updating bank officials in dealing with international markets and banks, increasing competition among local banks so that customers may benefit from competitive prices, and encouraging banks to run their assets positively, pointing out that local banks used to face some difficulties when opening documentary credits.

Korean Envoy Meets With Al-Jumayyil, Karami

NC111313 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The South Korean ambassador to Lebanon visited both President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Karami today. The talks dealt with the case of the kidnapped Korean diplomat and the outcome of the contacts now underway to find out what happened to him. Prime Minister Karami promised the Korean ambassador to step up these contacts to bring about his release. As mentioned earlier, the Korean ambassador also visited the presidential palace for the same purpose.

Sham'un Comments on Relations With Syria

NC111325 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1145 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Former president Camille Sham'un today conferred with President Amin al-Jumayyil. After the meeting, Sham'un expressed his belief that the ongoing exchanges give grounds for confidence rather than fear.

Sham'un said: We are not against agreement with Syria. We are only against the recently signed Damascus agreement. We favor any meetings between the Lebanese and Syrian Governments on the subject of future bilateral relations. If there is support for a cooperation and friendship accord, we are ready to sign such a document, provided that it guarantees the independence and sovereignty of both countries.

Sham'un stressed that no ill will is harbored toward the Syrians, and said he hopes that Syria reciprocates the Lebanese people's sentiments. Sham'un was asked about the talks he had with Mufti Hasan Khalid. He said: We are in complete agreement.

Concerning the situation in the South, Sham'un declared that he sees no cause for concern, because the Lebanese point of view will be vindicated. The Security Council, he said, cannot ignore Lebanon's rights over this part of the country.

Franjiyah Cited on Al-Jumayyil Resignation

NC111533 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Former President Sulayman Franjiyah has again attacked the president of the Republic, saying he expects him to resign before the end of February. At his weekly news conference today, Franjiyah expressed support for Speaker Husayn al-Husayni's position on the request to refer the tripartite agreement to the Chamber of Deputies.

He noted that Israel is currently waging an economic war against Lebanon in the wake of its abortive conventional war. He reiterated his call to the National Resistance to expel the enemy, and stressed that there can be no solution while this enemy remains in Lebanon. Franjiyah also condemned the recent act of air piracy against a civilian plane from Libya.

Karami Interviewed on Al-Jumayyil Resignation

NC112000 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1510 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Interview with Prime Minister Rashid Karami by unidentified Voice of the Mountain correspondent; date and place not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, let us begin our discussion with the issue on everyone's mind — The president's resignation. Some people believe that the only solution lies in President al-Jumayyil's departure, while he feels that his resignation would aggravate rather than settle the problem. What do you think?

[Karami] The current political conflict in Lebanon, which is the result of long-standing disputes, has obviously made certain people demand the president's ouster. This may be explained by the fact that the events of 15 January [overthrow of Elie Hubayqah], which was a bloody coup in the fullest sense of the word, have blocked the tripartite agreement. For a time, this accord was a source of hope that Lebanon might be saved and its security guaranteed. Therefore, the setback suffered by the Lebanese people was great, for it shattered that hope. Thus, there are those who blame the president for what happened. This situation has prompted them to define their position on Amin al-Jumayyil and to demand that he resign. It has also led others to say that when the president belongs to a party, his actions will take on a dual character in light of his public and private responsibilities. This will also cause confusion in state offices and will lead some people to accuse them of being biased toward the president. We are thus enmeshed in a welter of difficult circumstances and successive developments, causing the legitimate government to get lost in these problems. As a result of this, things are getting worse each day. Eventually, we must find a solution that will save us, for time is against the interests of everyone in Lebanon. Until now, some might have seen the time factor as the catalyst of a solution. Now, however, amid the economic and social pressures in Lebanon, we cannot wait for a settlement and remain as we are any longer.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, the policy that you, along with the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies and the nationalist ministers have followed thus far is one of boycotting the president. Is it still conceivable for you to go back on this boycott, and what are your conditions for doing so?

[Karami] This worsening conflict clearly has goals: To find a solution that will put a stop to the division and fighting. This settlement lies in accepting the tripartite agreement. This accord is an escape from war to peace, and will result in the return of evacuees to their homes and villages. It will solve the problem facing the authorities; they will regain their abilities, assume their role, and shoulder their responsibilities. This is an enormous problem, particularly as far as the provision of services and the satisfaction of the people's various needs are concerned.

It is now impossible to emerge from this impasse without a solution that will settle all these problems. Boycotting the president is not an end in itself, but a means to achieve these ends. Unless we find a viable solution and things return to normal, I do not think it will be possible to reverse this position.

[Question] As you said, events in East Beirut have undoubtedly been part of the blow dealt to the peace process called for by the tripartite agreement. Does this mean that the continued presence of Al-Jumayyil, who was a party to the 15 January coup, runs counter to peace in Lebanon?

[Karami] In any case, the coup against Elie Hubayqah in his capacity as a signatory to the tripartite agreement led to this setback. All Lebanese recognize the dangers and implications of this coup. Amin al-Jumayyil's position against Elie Hubayqah may have been based on the president's standing in the party. The conflicts within the Phalangist Party and the Lebanese Forces have disturbed their course and the actions taken to implement their plan and policy. From this premise, the role played by the president has caused confusion in the state and all its institutions, for he made it possible to level accusations against the state and against the person of the president himself for taking sides with a party that is still working in accordance with specific goals and principles.

These clear charges against the state as a whole have made it just one of the warring factions in Lebanon. Thus, it has become impossible to distinguish Shaykh Amin the president from Shaykh Amin the Phalangist Party member. This party pursues a two-track policy that will inevitably have an impact on the official and legal levels. This leaves the president open to accusations and demands for his resignation.

Birri on Meetings With PSP, PNSF Delegations

NC111358 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri today met with a Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] delegation headed by PSP Political Bureau member Muhsin Dallul and including PSP Central Committee members 'Ali al-Musawi, 'Isam al-'Ayn Trazi, and Abu Haytham. Haytham Jum'ah and 'Aql Hamiyyah also attended the meeting. The conferees reviewed the military and political situation in West Beirut during the past 24 hours. Birri and the delegation had identical views on all issues. They have agreed to coordinate PSP and Amal Movement political and military decisions. Birri and the others also agreed on the need to reinforce and increase military action in Beirut and other nationalist-held areas, and decided to increase the frequency of meetings between PSP and Amal Movement military commands.

After the meeting, Nabih Birri said that it was intended to emphasize the unity of the Amal Movement and the PSP and the need to prevent negligence and lack of discipline. Thus, the joint forces can act with the special forces to eliminate confrontations, kidnappings, the stealing of cars, and similar incidents. Bilateral relations between the Amal Movement and the PSP, as well as the need to cement the alliance through military measures, were also reviewed. A joint force began implementing these measures today.

Later, Birri met with a delegation from the Palestinian National Salvation Front [PNSF], headed by Abu 'Ali Busaysu. After the meeting, Birri said: Once again we affirm our commitment to our Palestinian brothers, which signifies further coordination with them. We also reviewed the measures of the PNSF and the Amal Movement and agreed to continue our meetings with other Palestinian brothers.

Defense Minister Addresses Army Command, Leaders

NC112219 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] In an appeal broadcast by Lebanese television this evening, Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran called on the Army command to assume its full national and military responsibility by moving the Army in the right direction.

'Usayran said: My fellow countrymen, I feel I must address you, as political and military leaders, and declare that your homeland is threatened and is on the edge of the abyss. Lebanon will either disintegrate for the last time or it will be reunited.

'Usayran declared: The Israeli enemy's intentions are now clear to everyone. He withdrew under the blows of the heroic Lebanese resistance just to catch his breath, to seek an opportunity to divide us, and to await signs of our weakness so he could return and occupy our land. Unless we are strong and united, our lives as free men in this beloved part of the world will be lost.

He pointed out that Israeli arrogance destroys all human freedoms — the freedom of the Christian before that of the Muslim. It makes no distinction among Lebanese in its criminal actions.

A historic decision lies before us all, civilians and soldiers alike. The future of our homeland depends on this. We must decide: Either we will have a single, united Army and a single, united homeland or we will have disintegration and dispersion. Lebanon cannot remain united without a united Army. If the Army is to remain united, it must be an Army for all Lebanese, and must be used only to protect Lebanon's borders and to confront the Israeli enemy who covets its territory. The Army cannot remain united if it is employed in the fighting among Lebanese citizens. If the Army sides with any sectarian group it will collapse and the division of Lebanon will begin.

'Usayran affirmed that the people and their leaders must realize this, and take an honorable and historic position with the officials of this government. The primary goal of this stand is to rescue the Lebanese from their ordeal, which has been long and painful. We must abandon every abominable sectarian and factional consideration for the sake of a united homeland. Political sectarianism has been, and continues to be, the root of all evil in Lebanon. The Army, however, has been, and must remain, Lebanon's hope for destroying this terrible cancer afflicting our homeland. We refuse to have the Army used for anything other than defense of the homeland and its unity. We will not remain silent about involving the Army in attempts to achieve partitionist goals that serve Israel and its satellites.

He added: From my position as defense minister and as one entrusted with the independence and unity of this homeland since its establishment, I appeal to every commander inside and outside the Army to go back to his conscience, heart, and honor, to take stock of his actions, and to look at his supreme national and pan-Arab responsibilties. I call on him to reject everything that is liable to undermine the foundations of his homeland and increase the sufferings of its people.

O soldier, ask yourself: For whom and for what am I fighting, and what should my national duty be. Does it lie in feeding the Army's disunity?

I call on the Army command to assume its full national and military responsibility by moving the Army in the right direction. Beware of the dangers and catastrophic consequences that may face us all. I appeal to the command with confidence in its nobility and capacity to make the firm and decisive decision that will serve the interests of the Army and the cause of Lebanon's survival.

'Usayran closed with an appeal to all political leaders who bear the ultimate responsibility to safeguard the homeland entrusted to them. I am confident, he said, that they will fulfill their historic responsibility and will work for Lebanon's unity and not its division, and that they will renounce selfish interests for the public good. In so doing, we can prove that we are statesmen satisfying the people's hope for relief from this terrible ordeal. Long live Lebanon, free, united, and independent, and long live its national Army.

Lebanese Forces Foil Hubayqah Group 'Terrorist Plan'

NC111600 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1415 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] A security source in the Lebanese Forces has made the following announcement:

Since the 15 January movement arose, the Lebanese Forces Command has tried to prevent arrests out of respect for individual freedoms and human rights in Lebanon. However, certain persons involved with Hubayqah misinterpreted this basic position. They took advantage of the prevailing freedom to reassemble a number of sabotage teams and to start implementing a terrorist plan supported from abroad. Their goal was to spread an atmosphere of terror in the people's hearts and doubt in their minds.

After the two explosions in Furn al-Shubbak and New Judaydah, the Lebanese Forces' security apparatus began to collect information on that and on other criminal activities that have led to the loss of a number of innocent lives. Our investigations have revealed much information on the recent acts of sabotage and on a terrorist plan being prepared against public and private institutions and against citizens without discrimination or limitations.

In light of this, security officials from the Lebanese Forces conducted a series of storming operations in several areas this morning. They arrested everyone implicated in these acts of sabotage and terrorism. The competent authorities have questioned those in custody, and we will reveal all the details of their investigation as they come in.

64 Hubayqah Supporters Arrested

NC111622 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] A security source in the Lebanese Forces has announced that the number of people arrested and charged today with terrorism and sabotage has reached 64. Preliminary investigations have revealed that these activities were being prepared by Joseph al-Asmar, former head of Hubayqah's counterespionage branch; Michel Zuwayn, former head of the intervention [al-tadakhkul] branch, and Elie Karam, also known as Al-Hanun, chief of the special protection branch, who is now in Beirut's southern suburb.

The general coordinator of these operations was As'ad Shaftari, former head of the National Security Forces, who arrived in West Beirut 2 days ago and stayed at the Beau Rivage Hotel. Our reports indicate that Shaftari met yesterday with Lieutenant Colonel Amir al-Tall, a Syrian intelligence officer in West Beirut. The source concluded by saying: We will release all the details later on.

'Ayn al-Rummanah Area Explosion Kills 2, Wounds 5

NC120904 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0856 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] We have just received the following from our newsdesk: Preliminary reports indicate that two people have been killed and five others wounded when an explosive charge went off at the entrance to the Star Movie Theater in the 'Ayn al-Rummanah area. A number of cars and some nearby buildings were also damaged by the blast.

Hubayqah Supporters Blamed

NC121004 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0945 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Two women were martyred and 14 other people were wounded by today's explosion in Al-Sanawbarah in 'Ayn al-Rummanah. Elie Hubayqah's group is behind this blast. An explosive charge, comprised of 20 kg of TNT, went off at 1000 today at the entrance to the Star Building. Judge Fawzi Daghir, the Mount Lebanon public prosecutor, has arrived at the scene of the explosion. Debris is continuing to be removed.

Security Situation Deteriorates in Mountain Area

NC111704 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The security situation deteriorated at 1730 today along the Dahr al-Wahsh-'Alayh combat line. Tanks and artillery have been used in the fighting, which has spread toward Al-Fayyadiyah, Al-Kahhalah, the outskirts of Al-Hazimiyah, and Harat [word indistinct].

Our correspondent reports that Galerie Khayrallah, (Al-Qurtubawi), and Dahr al-Wahsh are still coming under fire from tanks, flat trajectory weapons, and artillery deployed in the

'Alayh traffic circle, Western 'Alayh, the area behind the National Hospital in 'Alay, and Al-'Abbadiyah.

Machinegunners in Shwit attacked 'Arayya a short while ago. The Lebanese Forces have yet to retaliate, as they are awaiting the results of contacts made through the Security Committee to curb these assaults on military positions and residential areas.

Attempt To Infiltrate Al-'Ayrun Repulsed; 2 Killed

NC120943 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Al-Dilb area of Bikfayya has come under direct shelling, accompanied by bursts of sniper fire from Mar Ilyas-Shwayya. Gunmen tried to infiltrate the Al-'Ayrun area as far as Al-Duwwar at dawn today. However, the attempt was repulsed and one of the attackers was killed. Artillery belonging to the gunmen then intervened and shelled Al-Duwwar. The Army returned this shelling and another gunman was killed.

Armed Clashes Reportedly 'Raging' in Beirut

NC121139 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Clashes involving the use of various types of artillery, rocket, and machinegun fire, as well as tanks, have been raging along the 'Ayn al-Tuffahah-Shrin axis since 1300.

Economic Cooperation Discussed With Iran

JN111450 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1347 GMT
11 Feb 86

[Text] Damascus, 11 Feb (SANA) — Economic cooperation relations between Syria and Iran were discussed here today. A delegation from the Syrian Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade and an Iranian trade delegation currently visiting Syria under the director general of the Iranian Trade Ministry held talks aimed at concluding a contract for buying Syrian products.

Trade Minister Confers With Sudanese Counterpart

JN111425 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT
11 Feb 86

[Text] Damascus, 11 Feb (SANA) — A session of talks was held here this morning between the Syrian Arab side led by Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade, and the Sudanese side led by Sayyid Ahmad al-Sayyid, minister of trade, cooperation, and supply.

During the session the two ministers reviewed ways to bolster and promote relations between Syria and Sudan in the interest of the two fraternal countries. They also discussed ways to activate and increase bilateral trade. A subcommittee including specialists from the two sides was set up to draw up a draft barter agreement and a new trade agreement.

TISHRIN Views Israeli Reaction To U.S. Statement

JN120843 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0445 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Press review]

[Text] The newspaper *TISHRIN* today writes on the U.S. State Department's recent statement on the Palestine question and the Israeli reply to it. The paper says: Israel has requested a clarification of the U.S. State Department's statement that the Palestine question is more than a refugee issue. This, it seems,is the crux of the issue. Israel adamantly refuses to acknowledge the eixstence of a Palestinian people, because people, in the end, mean identity, rights, land, and a flag. Israel continues to deny any identity and rights for the Palestinians and is determined to carve up their land and scatter them in all countries of the world. It is in this light that we understand enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' decision to unilaterally apply autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza after efforts to hold separate negotiations have failed. For some months now, Israeli efforts have concentrated on expanding the Camp David circle, especially following the emergence of the Palestinian rightwing's deviation in the arena and the Palestinian rightwing leadership's alliance with Mubarak's regime. As usual, the Israelis utilized U.S. diplomacy to achieve this objective. However, their efforts have completely failed. This is because Israel has never been serious about achieving a reasonable, or even honorable, solution. What Israel wants is a humiliating settlement deal making occupied Palestinian territory a part of Greater Israel and perpetuating the Palestinians as refugees who could be resettled in neighboring Arab countries. This explains the Palestinian rightwing's inclination to recognize Israel through recognition of Resolution 242 without obtaining an Israeli commitment to recognize this rightwing as the representative of the Palestinians.

TISHRIN adds: The efforts that have been exerted in the past few months were in fact a trap to liquidate the Palestine question by Palestinian hands. The promises and enticements offered were a deception and a coverup. The Palestinian rightwing rushed to the Camp David circle attracted by these promises and enticements. It thus stabbed the revolution in the back, cast doubt on the real fighters, and placed itself in the enemy camp that is hostile to the honest Arab forces backing the Palestine question. The failure of the efforts is due more to the bankruptcy of the deviationist Palestinian rightwing line than that of Israel, because the liquidation of the Palestine question and the Palestinian Arab people's rights is an established Israeli objective. It is impossible for Zionist occupation to be legalized internationally unless the Palestinians themselves forego their own land and rights and chose to remain as refugees.

TISHRIN says: Syria has explained more than once that the efforts toward separate negotiations and Camp David deals are bound to fail. This is why it called for an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of the USSR on equal footing with the United States. Syria has also reiterated that the two conditions for just peace in the region are complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's rights, especially the right to self-determination and establishment of an indepndent state. Syria has been fully aware of the fact that the recent maneuvers and repeated talk about peace were only aimed at liquidating the Palestine question — the substance of the Arab-Israeli conflict — and entrenching Israeli domination over the whole of Palestine and the region. It has become very obvious that the leadership of the deviationist Palestinian rightwing was given only one choice; namely, recognition of Israel through recognition of Resolution 242. This leadership came under pressure from Mubarak to make this serious concession without obtaining in return the right to represent the Palestinian people. This honor was given to Israel's exposed agents in the West Bank and Gaza, men who are known for their close cooperation with Mosad and other Israeli organs.

TISHRIN concludes: If we are to draw conclusions from the past bitter experiences, we can say that the free Arab concessions have increased the enemy's lust for expansion and aggression. Israel has considered the Arab concessions a sign of weakness. It is indeed a weakness which can be exploited to achieve complete surrender. On the other hand, Israel has considered Syria's steadfast stands and strategic reconstruction a great danger threatening its existence in the long term. Yesterday, Rabin said that Syria constitutes the only danger to Israel.

Diplomatic Relations With Ivory Coast Resumed

TA121224 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] After approximately 13 years of severed relations, the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire — the Ivory Coast — and Israel have resumed diplomatic ties. A joint communique by the two governments is currently being made public in Abidjan and Jerusalem. Speaking at a news conference in Jerusalem, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that ambassadors to the two countries will be appointed soon.

Our correspondent Menahem Friedman reports that in recent weeks, the Ivory Coast renewed diplomatic ties with Eastern Bloc countries, excluding the Soviet Union. The decision to establish relations between Israel and the Ivory Coast was made final during a meeting held approximately 3 months ago in Geneva between President Houphouet-Boigny and Prime Minister Peres.

Egyptian Delegation Arrives; Tabah Talks To Begin

TA120530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Egyptian delegation to the Tabah talks arrived late last night. It is headed by Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, the legal adviser to the Foreign Ministry. At Ben-Gurion Airport Al-'Arabi said he hoped an arbitration document would be worked out shortly. He also intended to raise a long-standing dispute between the Copts and the Ethiopians over a section of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Further Talks Scheduled

TA121135 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1123 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The formulation of the compromise on Tabah will not be completed in the current round of talks between the teams of directors general from Israel and Egypt. Avraham Tamir, the head of the Israeli delegation to the talks and director general of the Prime Minister's Office, told our correspondent Eldad Beck that although progress was made during this morning's meeting between the delegation heads, it appears that another round of talks will be necessary. Representatives of the two delegations point out that the atmosphere in the talks is excellent.

Session Ends; Kimche Comments

TA121219 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1145 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Report by Aharon Barne'a]

[Text] A few minutes ago the opening session of talks between the Israeli and Egyptian teams of directors-general ended here at the Dan Accadia Hotel in Herzliyya. The three delegations — Egypt, Israel, and the United States — convened for the opening session of this round of talks.

At the opening of the meeting, Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche said that Israel attributes much importance to progress in all areas. The subject of normalization in bilateral relations is no less important than the Tabah issue. Kimche said progress must be made in both areas in order to inject new life into the peace accords, as it will contribute much to the peace agreement. The head of the Egyptian delegation concurred, and confirmed that the Egyptian delegation plans to make such progress.

All in all, we learned that the atmosphere during the talks was good, as it was during the meeting held this morning between the heads of the delegations. We were informed that agreement, albeit on minor but substantive matters, was reached in that meeting. Practical work by the two committees will begin this afternoon and continue tomorrow morning. David Kimche made these remarks following today's meeting:

[Begin Kimche recording] This morning we talked mainly about the arbitral compromise, but naturally we will continue to discuss bilateral issues which are no less important. [end recording]

The two committees — one to deal with bilateral relations and the other to deal with the formulation of the arbitral compromise — will begin their work this afternoon here at the Dan Accadia Hotel. At 1830 this evening, the delegation heads will meet with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at his office in Jerusalem, as requested bythe Egyptian delegation. On Friday, the delegation heads will meet with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

Something refreshingly new in these talks: After a long period during which Egyptian correspondents did not cover these talks, one correspondent arrived from the *AL-AKHBAR* newspaper, and she willremain here with the delegation which, as far as we have learned, might stay here until Sunday. The last meeting during this round of talks will then be on Saturday evening.

Further Reportage on Arrival of Shcharanskiy

Welcomed by Peres

TA112022 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1821 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Speech by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres at the Ben-Gurion Airport VIP Lounge on the occasion of the arrival of Prisoner of Zion Anatoliy Shcharanskiy in Israel, on 11 February — live]

[Text] Avital and Natan [Anatoliy's newly-adopted Hebrew name] Shcharanskiy, my fellow Cabinet members, honorable Chief Rabbis. There are moments during which the heart of the entire nation beats together as one. The hearts of our people, and the hearts of all freedom-lovers are currently beating as one, as this is an unusual event, a most moving one. We see a man like Natan Shcharanskiy who, for 12 years, alone and in poor health, having no one to approach, stood firmly like a rock with his Jewish pride, Zionist loyalty, and his desire for freedom. It is the heroism of solitude in the face of a huge superpower; of one man with an unbeatable spirit. This proves that it is possible to imprison the body, but not the spirit; that it is possible to detain a man, but if his spirit and faith are strong, no one will defeat him.

Let me add that I cherish the same sentiments for Avital Shcharanskiy, who fought like a lioness. [applause] For her, no place was too far, no man too strange, and no occasion too easy. [as heard] She left no stone unturned, and fought as a woman and a representative of the Jewish people. Her struggle was unique, undespairing, and unrelenting. This also provides me with the opportunity to express both our hope and our determination not to rest for even one moment until all the Prisoners of Zion and all the members of the Jewish people are freed and allowed to reach the shores of their homeland. [applause]

Just as yesterday our hearts were with Shcharanskiy and Ida Nudel, as well as with Lerner [not further identified] and many others, today our hearts are with the others, except that today we have received the boost of a great power in this struggle, in the form of Natan Shcharanskiy himself. [applause] Together we will fight to obtain the release of the others.

Only a few moments ago, we telephoned U.S. President Ronald Reagan; and Mrs Shcharanskiy, Natan Shcharanskiy, and I thanked the U.S. President for the unceasing efforts he, as President; Secretary of State George Shultz; and many other Cabinet members, made endlessly, owing to their deep feelings for the Jewish people and their inner conviction that the members of this nation have the right to leave Russia and come to Israel. Then this great moment, this historic moment in the lives of our nation arrived.

The President told me that he had thus fulfilled a promise he made prior to the summit meeting — as he had also informed us — that he would raise the issue both of human rights in general and of the Prisoners of Zion, as members of the Jewish people, in particular, too. And he indeed did that in his meeting with Gorbachev. He told me he would pursue this struggle, which has not ended. I would like to say here, both as an Israeli and a Jew, that I am deeply moved by the attitude of the U.S. people and their government toward the State of Israel, the Soviet Jews, and all of us. The President also wished to note that another person who played a prime role in the release of Natan Shcharanskiy, Chancellor Kohl. The latter had told me, during my meeting with him, that he would make such efforts and naturally I will also call him to thank him for his role in this struggle.

Ladies and Gentlemen, no words can express this truly moving moment, which makes our people a unique people, a united people, and a great people historically. Natan, may you be blessed among us. Welcome to Israel! [applause]

Shamir Welcome Address

TA112043 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1833 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Address by Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at the Ben-Gurion Airport VIP lounge on the occasion of the arrival of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy in Israel, on 11 February — live]

[Text] Mr Prime Minister, Honorable Chief Rabbi [singular as heard], Cabinet members, Knesset members, Aliyah fighters, dear friends, brother Natan-Anatoliy, our dear sister Avital. The eyes of all the people of Israel turn today to you washed with tears of happiness and joy.

Yesterday, many identified with your suffering and fight; today, many identify with your victory and joy. This is indeed a victory: the arrival of Anatoliy-Natan Shcharanskiy straight from prison, from the purgatory of the Soviet jail directly to the homeland. For his Jewish people, this is a great victory; the victory of spirit over matter, of justice over injustice, of faith over despair, and of liberty over oppression.

This victory of Anatoliy and Avital is a great message and brings great tidings to the great many who still remain in Soviet Russia, dreaming to come home to the homeland and the arms of their people, like Anatoliy. Today they can hear what we have been saying here, and they know that if Anatoliy came to Israel, they too will come. Their day, too will come. [applause] That day will come if we continue our fight unrelenting, faithfully, religiously, and constantly, in the spirit which Anatoliy and Avital symbolize and exemplify.

Let us tell our brethren in the Soviet Union today: Do not despair! All of you will come here. And let us tell the Soviet people today: You sent us today our brother Anatoliy. That gives us much joy and has diminished nothing of your power and prestige. Continue to open the gates of your country for the members of the Jewish nation who wish to return to their homeland! This will be a great service to justice and peace. You will not regret this service.

Let me give Anatoliy and Avital a personal greeting: The people of Israel are welcoming you with great love, and are sending you their congratulations today, as you meet again in the homeland after all those bitter years.

May you be blessed with the building of a happy home, a home of love, in the homeland. Amen. [applause]

Shamir: Release of More 'Refuseniks'

TA111602 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1520 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir revealed today that Israel has recently received information on the expected release of between five to seven more Prisoners of Zion. Our correspondent Ilan Ben-Dor brings us excerpts of Shamir's remarks:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] We must tell the Soviet Union that if it really wants to change world public opinion it must change its overall policy, and that piecemeal release of individuals will not achieve this object. They must release all the hundreds of thousands.

[Ben-Dor] Were there additional signals from the Soviets recently of a new policy regarding this issue?
[Shamir] Recently the Soviets, generally speaking, have been trying to buy the sympathy of Western public opinion by freeing individuals. Besides Shcharanskiy, there are reports on the release of five, six, or seven refuseniks, or Prisoners of Zion. [end recording]

Mandela Release 'Scheduled'

TA120946 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Feb 86
pp 1, 9

[Report by political correspondent Refa'el Mann]

[Text] Black leader Nelson Mandela is scheduled to be released from prison in South Africa shortly, authoritative sources in Jerusalem confirmed last night. The release will take place in the wake of the Soviets' agreement to free Anatoliy Shcharanskiy. The denial issued by South Africa yesterday to the effect that Mandela would not be released soon because the Soviet Union had not met its conditions was greeted with surprise in Jerusalem.

The spokesmen at the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry yesterday refused to officially confirm the reports on the contacts Israel had been holding with South Africa over the question of Mandela's release. However, sources in both offices confirmed that the issue had been raised in contacts and in messages exchanged between Jerusalem and Pretoria.

Officials in Jerusalem yesterday voiced conflicting versions on the question of who had initiated the incorporation of Mandela's release as part of the deal to attain Shcharanskiy's exit from the Soviet Union. One version had it that Prime Minister Shim'on Peres had asked South African President P. W. Botha to raise the request to free Shcharanskiy in contacts his government holds with Moscow.

Another version circulating in Jerusalem is that the South Africans had initiated the linkage between Shcharanskiy's release with that of Mandela, as reflected in President Botha's address to the South African Parliament several weeks ago. The South African ambassador in Israel gave the text of Botha's address to the offices of the prime minister and the foreign minister.

Peres Says Government Should Resume Economic Growth

TA111725 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT
11 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says that at present we need a coalition with the Likud because one party by itself cannot advance the economy. Peres added, however, that we must inform the Likud that we must reach a joint agreement on the continuation of the process, and we cannot avoid channeling funds to economic growth. Shim'on Peres was addressing the Labor Party Central Committee which is convening at present in Tel Aviv's Congress Hall. Correspondent Uri Ginosar reports:

[Begin recording] [Ginosar] Labor Party Secretary General 'Uzi Bar'am opened today's Labor Party Central Committee session with an offensive on the Likud ministers. He said the finance minister cannot open or close factories at his pleasure, and Ari'el Sharon will not be the patron of the development towns in the national unity government. We will not legitimize the ideology of unemployment as a solution to an economic problem. Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, who spoke immediately after Bar'am, moderated the tone. He clarified that the coalition with the Likud was, and still is, essential for healing the economy. No party can do so on its own. However, even Peres realizes there is no avoiding channeling funds for growth, and he believes that next year at least half a million dollars [figure as heard] can be gathered for this end. The prime minister says the Labor Party must tell the Likud that we have completed one stage, and should reach an agreement to continue:

[Peres] When it came to making cuts in the government, the finance minister proposed to establish a committee headed by the prime minister. [laughter] I do not subscribe to the view that we should make the cuts together and distribute separately. This means that just as we have made joint efforts to cut, we will bring about a joint policy of growth. And I believe we should start now and not postpone this effort. And we should be selective: sometimes we will have to say yes, sometimes no.

[Ginosar] The central committee is currently dealing with the elections proceedings for the party convention which will be convened in April. [end recording]

Peres Explains Proposed Changes in Territories

TA121234 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The prime minister announced in the Knesset that negotiations with Jordan are continuing, and that it is the negotiations between King Husayn and the PLO which have failed. The residents of the territories, he stressed, must know that 'Arafat is creating illusions and declaring that the negotiations did not fail so that others will not turn their backs on him. Israel is obliged to tell the residents of the territories that they must decide their futures because time is working against everything.

The prime minister emphasized that in the interim period, Israel would not force anything on the residents of the territories. It is offering the chance to accept authority in the municipal sphere, in health, trade, housing, and in tourism. Israel is also suggesting, but not forcing, that economic development in the territories be increased, and that the residents' ties with the Arab world be made easier. Mr Peres was replying to six motions to the agenda.

Rabin: No Change in Policy

TA112003 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT
11 Feb 86

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today reaffirmed that there is no change is Israel's policy in the territories, and the prevailing structure of the Military Government and the Civilian Administration will remain. The defense minister toured the Gaza District today, visited the city of Gaza, and conferred with settlement leaders in the Qatif bloc. He was accompanied by our correspondent in the territories Arye Gus:

[Begin recording] [Gus] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin chose to visit the Gaza District and examine the refugee rehabilitation project precisely at the time when talk about autonomy or broader authority for the inhabitants of the territories has increased. He said: There has been no significant change.

[Rabin] Whether in Gaza or in Judaea and Samaria, we are following a fixed plan unaffected by the ups and downs in the preparations or hopes for peace negotiations between Israel, Jordan, and Palestinians who will arrive with the Jordanian delegation.

[Gus] The defense minister pointed out that in Gaza, which he was touring, much has been done in the sphere of handing over authority to the Arab inhabitants. In Judaea and Samaria, Mr Rabin said, certain such initiatives have failed, but if the proper candidates are found, we would be pleased. Israel's policy has been and will continue to strive for improvement in the standard of living for the inhabitants, for improvement in the quality of their lives, while also fighting terrorism. This also includes the principle that the Arab towns should be headed by Arabs.

[Rabin] Our principle guideline is to preserve the Military Government and the military administration [as heard] while maintaining the overall framework, but within this framework to confer more duties, based on the principle that it is preferable for the inhabitants to conduct their own affairs than for us to do that. Still, the overall framework and the legal basis — certainly the military and security framework — will remain as they are.

[Gus] Despite the defense minister's calming words, the Jewish inhabitants of the Gaza District were worried. When Minister Rabin visited the Yamit Yeshiva in the Qatif bloc, the settlers expressed their fear over all the talk about autonomy. The head of the Gaza Coast Regional Council Re'uven Rosenblatt, said: It makes us nervous.

[Rosenblatt] It is not a question of being nervous. We find it difficult to understand why Israel must always unilaterally give up things it has outside the framework of any agreements. Clearly we, as people who have been living in this area, regard it as an integral part of Israel, and any statement about autonomy takes us back a few years to the bad times, politically, Israel has known. We certainly understand and are ready to support the view that favors granting a certain degree of independence to the Arab towns to handle the inhabitants' municipal services. But this is not autonomy. The situation must be clear: Israeli sovereignty, and from that point on, there can certainly be autonomy in administering municipal services, but under no circumstances can it go beyond this. [end recording]

Rabin: U.S. Statement on Palestinians 'Serious'

TA121004 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 12 Feb 86 p 13

[Report by Tzvi Alush and Miri 'Eden]

[Excerpt] "I consider the reports published yesterday that the United States would be prepared to recognize the Palestinians right to self-determination in exchange for their recognition of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, an extremely serious development," Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated last night at a rally of the Labor Party's Judaea District in Rishon Leziyyon.

Rabin cautioned against Syria's military build-up. At present, Syria has some 450,000 troops and 2,000 tanks which are better armed than the British and French Armies. Referring to Egypt, Rabin said peace is within reach "if not tomorrow, then the day after."

Addressing himself to the negotiations with Jordan, the defense minister said that the key word is patience. "If the other side thinks we have no patience, it will toughen its positions," he noted. Nevertheless, Rabin emphasized that Israel, for its part, should prepare the basis and conditions for negotiations with Jordan "and if Husayn wants to join, let him. He is the one who should make the decision."

AL-QUDS on Talks Deadlock

TA111750 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 9 Feb 86 p 1

[Editorial: "The United States and the Deadlock"]

[Text] Following 2 weeks of Jordanian-Palestinian talks, the recent U.S. position rejecting the Palestinian people's right to self-determination even within the framework of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation, brought down the curtain on the indirect Palestinian-U.S. dialogue and led it again to a deadlock.

This U.S. position is not new. Several times in the past the United States had brought political efforts to solve the Palestinian problem back to square one. This clearly shows that Washington is trying to exclude the PLO from the peace talks by raising the slogan: Either talks without the PLO or no talks at all. This slogan, initially put forward by Israel, is one of the factors that have stalemated efforts for a peaceful settlement and led to the present situation of uncertainty and apprehension.

It is a source of amazement that the United States has adopted this position against the right of the Palestinian people to determine their destiny because it was the country that struggled to defend the freedom of nations and was among the states that established the United Nations, the same organization that called for granting the Palestinians the right to choose their political future in the same manner as all other nations. If America recognizes the right to self-determination for other small nations whose population does not exceed a few thousand -- such as the inhabitants of the Falklands and the small Caribbean islands -- then with what logic does it refuse to give the Palestinians, whose number exceeds 5 million, the right to determine their own future?

As long as the issue is related to the Palestinian problem, which is the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict, how can this problem be solved without the participation of those concerned, the Palestinians, and what are the substitute solutions to the right of self-determination that Washington believes will solve the Palestinian problem?

In the aftermath of the new-old U.S. position one thing is certain, and that is efforts for a peaceful settlement will remain frozen for a long period. This contradicts continuous American statements about the time factor and the need to exploit it to achieve peace before present opportunities are lost. However, it is apparent that the United States itself will be the cause of such a loss due to its adoption of the Israeli positions and lack of understanding for or response to the Arab peace initiatives. The proof of the sincere Arab intentions in this context is extensive.

Egypt Announces Additional Reduction in Oil Prices

TA111153 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] There has been another reduction in the price of Egyptian oil sold to Israel. This morning Egypt informed Israel that it is reducing the price of its oil by another $5.20 per barrel. Thus, the cost of Egyptian oil has dropped to $15.50 and our correspondent comments that this will save Israel $60 million a year.

Navy Detains 'Suspicious' Vessel Of Gaza; 1 Dead

TA120524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Engl h 0500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] An Israeli Navy boat has detained a vessel off the coast of Gaza after a chase in which there was shooting. Even after warning shots were fired, the suspicious boat tried to evade capture and sacks were thrown from it into the water. It halted only after shots were directed at its bow. It emerged that one of the passengers, apparently the captain, was found dead. The other nine crew members said he had been killed by the fire from the Navy boat. Military sources added that the vessel was sailing without a flag but during the pursuit it displayed a Turkish flag. Also, in the past it had been detained under similar circumstances.

Attorney General Zamir Announces Retirement

TA111635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Attorney General Yitzhaq Zamir is retiring. Prof Zamir has served as attorney general for the past 8 years, and our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar reports that he decided to retire because he had served in this capacity for a long time. He announced his decision in a meeting with legal affairs correspondents.

Mulpoc Ministerial Council Meeting Opens in Togo

AB110937 Paris AFP in French 1426 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Lome, 10 Feb (AFP) — The Mulpoc (Multinational Programming and Operational Center) ministerial council for West Africa opened in Lome this morning. During the 3-day deliberations, ministers of 10 of the 16 member-countries of the subregion (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo) will tackle the region's development problems.

Experts from member-countries and those from ECA (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa) will discuss the problems of drought, desert encroachment, the economic crisis in West Africa, the socioeconomic conditions, the state of advancement of the creation of the subregional research center on building materials, and the integration of women in the development process in 1985.

At the inaugural session, Mr Adebayo Adedeji, ECA secretary general, made an appeal for more cooperation among the peoples in order to support Mulpoc, which fights for Africa's development. The meeting takes place under the chairmanship of the Togolese minister for industry and planning, Mr Ayaovi Adodo, who succeeds his Niger counterpart at this post.

African Lawyers Body To Be Headquartered in Dakar

AB111157 Paris AFP in English 1112 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Dakar, Feb 11 (AFP) — The Association of African Lawyers (AJA) is to have its headquarters in Dakar under the terms of an agreement concluded with the Senegalese Government. The accord was signed Monday by Senegalese Foreign Minister Ibrahima Fall and AJA President Benoit Ngom.

During the ceremony, Mr Ngom announced the forthcoming creation of a "Nelson Mandela International Fund" named after the jailed leader of the banned African National Congress and aimed at backing a campaign against human rights violations in South Africa. The AJA president also said an international tribunal was to be set up to "judge" South Africa's apartheid system.

Lagos Radio Views Splits Within OATUU

AB111011 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Mike Onoche "news analysis"]

[Text] Contrary to expectations, the recent meeting of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity [OATUU] held in Accra, Ghana, ended without any meaningful program toward effective coordination of labor activities in Africa. This, to many observers, is indeed very disappointing. According to reports, there are now two factions of the organization. One comprises 17 of the 47-member union with a Libyan as the leader. The other is led by the former president of the Nigerian Labor Congress, Alhaji Hassan Sumonu, whose group has 30 members. This group was said to have elected their executive officers. Although it is premature to say which of the two factions can be considered as the authentic or constitutional, some people argue that going by simple mathematical analogy, the majority usually carries the vote. (?Be that as it may,) recent developments within the organization emphasizes the need for African trade union leaders to rise above pessimists and demonstrate greater commitment towards the realization of its objectives.

It will be recalled that at its fourth congress in Lagos last year, the labor movement spent 6 whole days without adopting any meaningful resolutions on matters affecting the continent. It was not able to elect officers to run its affairs, hence the need for setting up a caretaker committee. It is true that workers throughout the continent expected their leaders to allow maturity prevail at the Accra meeting so that they can resolve their differences amicably. Rather, delegates to the conference appeared to be ignorant of such expectations by allowing mere sentiments to override their sense of [words indistinct]. The labor leaders should draw inspiration from the purposeful leadership of its parent body, the OAU which has resolved issues [words indistinct] from petty squabbles and (?bickerings) of the past and concentrate on ways of finding solutions to the enormous problems facing the continent, such as drought, desertification, unemployment and food shortages.

It is common knowledge that despite abundant natural resources, Africa is one of the most impoverished continents in the world. This should be matter for serious concern to the labor leaders who control the continent's work force. Since the main mover of the productive system in all economies is the labor force, they cannot afford to perpetrate any misunderstanding between them, especially at this time when concerted efforts are needed to turn around the economies of African states. Also, the need for a more responsible labor leadership is underlined by the revelations made in the financial report of the organization's auditors who spoke of grave financial mismanagement. Needless to say that no progress can be made in any organization whose limited resources are allowed to be mismanaged by any individual or group of individuals, but the issue can be resolved without breaking into factions. Another issue which is particularly disturbing is the allegation of foreign influence in the organization, even though its charter [words indistinct] from falling pray to such pressure. The balkanization of the OATUU is a negation of the OAU principle of unity and brotherliness and therefore unacceptable. It is hoped that African leaders will take appropriate steps to bring together the two factions with a view to giving the continent (?essential) and progressive labor movement.

ALGERIA

Messaadia Resumes Talks With Libya's Jallud

LD112029 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Algerian-Libyan political talks were resumed this afternoon at the party's headquarters under the chairmanship of Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and the official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee and Staff-Major Ahmad 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan Revolutionary Command.

The talks covered a number of areas of concern to both countries, including the issues of unity and fields of cooperation as well as other issues of mutual interest in order to achieve the common goal of the peoples in their longing for liberation from backwardness and colonialism.

Following the two sides' affirmation of the need to stimulate cooperation by working for the implementation of agreements, they noted the importance of broadening this cooperation in accordance with the two countries' desire to consolidate relations.

Foreign Minister To Visit Paris, Meets With Bendjedid

LD111317 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN Party, this morning received Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Politburo and the minister of foreign affairs, before his departure for Paris as a special envoy carrying a message from the brother president to the French President Francois Mitterrand.

Cooperation Talks Held With Hungarian Delegation

LD111310 Algiers APS in English 1115 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Algiers, 11/02/86 (APS) — The Hungarian Planning National Office state secretary Hoos Janos conferred Monday with ministers of planning, Ali Oubouzar and heavy industry, Salim Saadi. The talks were centered on relations of cooperation and the preparation of the coming session of the Algerian-Hungarian joint commission which is co-chaired by Salim Saadi on the Algerian side.

Hoos Janos arrived here Monday at the head of a delegation for a five-day visit to Algeria at the invitation of the Ministry of Planning.

LIBYA

U.S. To Resume 'Provocative Aggressive Maneuvers'

LD120915 Tripoli JANA in English 0819 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, Jumada Athani 1, Feb 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The U.S. war ministry "The Pentagon", announced on Monday that the 6th Fleet's aircraft and ships will resume their terrorist aggressive manoeuvers at the first minute of today's morning opposite the Libyan Arab shores.

The Pentagon said that the fleet's F-14 and F-18 fighter aircraft and both aircraft carriers *Coral Sea* and *Saratoga* will start their 4 day manoeuvres in the southern Mediterranean.

REUTER quoted U.S. government's officials, who asked to remain unidentified, as saying that any of the fleet's 32 war ships currently operating in the Mediterranean waters do not intend to sail in the Gulf of Sidra.

Al-Qadhdhafi Threatens Installation of USSR Missiles

AU111531 Rome ANSA in English 1518 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text](ANSA) Rome, February 11 — Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi today urged the Italians to "get it into the Americans' heads" that, as long as "justice is not given to the Palestinian people, not only will there never be peace in the Middle East, but world peace itself will always be in danger".

In an interview published by the Turin daily, *LA STAMPA*, Al-Qadhdhafi said that, if the situation with the United States should "precipitate", "we would have what one might call a state of necessity" in which he would be forced to make a formal military alliance with the Soviet Union.

"The result would be the installation in Libya of very modern long-range nuclear missiles", the Libyan leader said. "If these lethal weapons were installed, all of Western Europe's missile arsenal would be automatically placed out of play".

Al-Qadhdhafi also called once more for a summit between himself and Italy's prime minister, Bettino Craxi, a Socialist Party member. "You tell me that Craxi, a Socialist, might have difficulty in meeting me", he said. "But I think that, in order to make history, you sometimes have to have the courage not to pay too much attention to the day-to-day news".

The interviewer reminded the Libyan leader that, after the Palestinian attacks which left 20 dead at Vienna and Rome's Fiumicino Airport on December 27, Craxi could hardly meet him unless Al-Qadhdhafi himself made some concrete gesture to pave the way, for example by urging the Palestinians to desist from actions of this kind against friendly countries.

"I am against actions like Fiumicino and Vienna" he replied. "Among other things, they are meaningless. But I must remind that who are justly indignant (over the attacks) that... it is truly difficult to put oneself in the shoes of people chased from their own land, of young people who have seen their parents and little brothers murdered, guilty only of being Palestinians".

"Those young people cannot make certain distinctions as the rest of us do. Who can proble their infinite desperation? However that may be, I will try to convince them to fight only in Palestine. But you Italians, you Europeans, should give me a hand...".

In other points, Al-Qadhdhafi discussed the chances for an agreement with Israel on the Middle East crisis, the effects of the collapse in oil prices, and his view of U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

On an agreement with Tel Aviv, he pointed out that the "Zionist entity, a body extraneous to the land of Palestine" will "never give up anything, but not a single brick" despite the "illusions" entertained by "'Arafat and some other gentlemen" that Israel may hand back the West Bank and Gaza. "So the fight must continue, because Israel gives us no possibility of making peace", he said. "Israel's very existence is the negation of peace".

"(The Israelis) in fact always need to wage war because if the tension should one day fall, American aid would cease and infinite domestic contradictions would surface, so that everything would melt like wax in the fire".

On oil prices he said Libya would defend its economic standing "tooth and nail", for example, "by freezing contracts and payements, or aligning payments with oil prices... or even suspending production for a year to make the barrel of oil return to its right price".

Asking the interview to "underscore what I say here, it is very important", Al-Qadhdhafi also warned that if people going on working for lower oil prices, "the Gulf war will fatally worsen and suck in Saudi Arabia and the Emirates. It would be a terrible blaze".

On Reagan, he said, "I try in vain to find a reason for his irresponsible attitudes". "When he was elected, we thought that since he was old, he would be wise. We thought that an actor is an artist so, as such, not a wicked man, but instead.... But maybe the attack on his life, sickness and age have ruined his arteries. I am also convinced his entourage has been infiltrated by Zionists who profit from his senility. Thus, it would seem he wanted to turn the Mediterranean into a film set... but the Mediterranean is not Hollywood. Reagan's policy threatens peace. Reagan is playing with fire".

VOGAH: Al-Qadhdhafi, King Hassan Discuss Gulf War

LD120655 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0215 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] A telephone conversation took place yesterday between the brother leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and Moroccan monarch King Hassan II, on the issue of the Gulf war.

U.S. To Protect Israeli Planes Over Mediterranean

LD111521 Tripoli JANA in English 1432 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] London, Jumada Awal 30, Feb 11, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — U.S. Department of War (The Pentagon) has announced that U.S. Government has decided to give protective support to commercial Israeli planes should Libyan Arab fighter jets intercept them across the Mediterranean Sea.

Israel's Rabin Confirms Protection

LD120943 Tripoli JANA in English 0817 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Beirut, Jumada Athani 1, Feb. 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Terrorist Yitzhaq Rabin, the enemy's war minister, announced that the U.S. Sixth Fleet will protect the Israeli airliners on their routes from and to occupied Palestine. In a speech addressing the Foreign and Security Committee of the Zionist Knesset yesterday, he said that the Israeli airliners will be safe thanks to the American 6th Fleet currently operating in the Mediterranean.

Foreign Liaison Bureau Attacks U.S. Veto Abuse

LD111912 Tripoli JANA in English 0904 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, February 11, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The People's Committee for the Foreign Liaison Bureau this morning summoned all ambassadors and heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The People's Committee for the Foreign Liaison Bureau informed the ambassadors and heads of diplomatic missions of Jamahiriyah's stand on the seriousness of veto misuse by the American Government.

The committee pointed out that the latest American Administration veto was the third within a month of its kind against Security Council decisions on Arab causes which constitute a blind bias in favour of the Zionist enemy and serious abuse of veto right in the Security Council primarily to maintain for the original purpose of vesting this extraordinary right to some countries was to maintain international peace and security [sentence as received]

The committee asserted that the United States used the veto to undermine the principles, objectives and purposes of the United Nations and against peoples victim of racism and Zionism. America made itself the protector of every terroristic regime and exploits international law for its self interest rendering the Security Council impotent to fulfill its primary responsibility in the maintenance of international peace and security.

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah called for the need to take vigorous measures to put an end to American abuse and violation of international law. It further called for a review of the veto system.

Chadian Claims of Libyan Action Called 'Untruthful'

LD111216 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1045 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 11 Feb (JANA) — Hissein Habre and his clique have claimed in untruthful statements that the Jamahiriyah is preparing to undertake military action in order to overrun Chad. JANA's editor for African affairs has commented on these claims, saying that it is ridiculous that the name of Libya is thrown in whenever fighting between the Chadian tribes, which are killing each other there, breaks out.

He stressed that it is not possible for the Jamahiriyah, which has done so much to end the fratricide inside Chad and has made available all means to achieve security and stability in this country, to do what Habre and his clique have claimed.

The editor for African affairs pointed out that the problem of Chad, as it is known to all, is a tribal war which all sides have failed to resolve and that the Jamahiriyah is still committed to noninterference in this tribal war. He also said that the Jamahiriyah, with the rest of the African countries, aspires to find a solution for the Chadian problem. It continues to invite all the sides in Chad to lay down their arms and realize national reconciliation.

JANA's editor for African affairs emphasized that the statements made by Habre and his clique provide irrefutable evidence of Habre's clinging to power, and for this reason he involves the name of Libya whenever fighting between Chadian tribes, which are killing each other there, breaks out.

Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Group Arrives 10 Feb

LD111614 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Member of the Presidium of the Soviet Committee of Afro-Asian Solidarity, (Saranmov), and an accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Saranmov stressed that his visit comes in the framework of solidarity with the Libyan Arab people against U.S. and Zionist threats and their struggle against these threats.

Khalkhali-Led Iranian Delegation Holds Talks

LD111604 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1440 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 11 Feb (JANA) — A meeting was held this morning at the headquarters of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison between members of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and the Iranian delegation led by Ayatollah Mohammad Khalkhali, member of the Shura Council of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the framework of continuing contacts between the two brotherly countries.

Views on the brotherly relations that link the brotherly peoples and joint bilateral action to confront U.S. threats and provocations against the revolutions in Libya and Iran were exchanged at the meeting.

The Iranian delegation reaffirmed the Iranian people's and revolution's stand beside the Libyan Arab people in their confrontation against U.S. threats and provocations against their national choices, and that the Iranian people will meet any action taken by the United States against the Libyan Arab people.

The Iranian delegation commended the efforts made by the brother leader of the revolution to support Muslims everywhere, explaining that the Iranian people highly appreciated these efforts.

Austria's Bruno Kreisky Leaves Tripoli 11 Feb

LD111955 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Bruno Kreisky, the former Austrian chancellor, left Tripoli this afternoon following a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah during which he took part in the international intellectual conference on imperialism and vacuum [as heard], which is continuing its proceedings these days in the city of Al-Bayan Al-Awwal, Benghazi.

MOROCCO

Foreign Minister Condemns Iranian Aggression

LD112035 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II is watching the developments of the Iraq-Iran war with great interest. The king issued instructions that Morocco should participate in the meetings of the 7-member committee, which will be held tomorrow in Baghdad to study ways of confronting the Iranian aggression against Iraqi territory. This was announced by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali in a statement to MAP.

Following the new Iranian aggression against Iraq, the minister said the official spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation had earlier expressed the government's condemnation of this aggression and called for an immediate withdrawal from Iraqi territory and reason and wisdom in order to end this war.

According to the Arab and Islamic responsibilities of Morocco, because King Hassan II is the chairman of the Arab summit and the Islamic summit, our position is clear and well-defined toward these aggressive actions against an Arab country to which we are bound through the Arab League Charter.

Abdellatif Filali added: His majesty has followed the recent developments with great interest and instructed Morocco to participate in the meetings of the 7-member committee which will hold an emergency meeting in Baghdad tomorrow to study ways to confront and defeat this aggression.

The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation concluded his statement by saying: I would have liked to participate personally in this meeting, but I have to remain in Morocco to receive the FRG foreign minister whose official visit to our country will begin the day after tomorrow.

His majesty commissioned Dr Azzedine Laraki, minister of national education, and Ahmed Sharkaoui, secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, to attend this meeting.

Government Voices 'Deep Concern'

LD111257 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Rabat, Feb 11, (MAP) — The Government of Morocco has voiced deep concern over the escalation of war between the two Islamic states, Iraq and Iran, "a war which is likely to complicate the situation and annihilate all Islamic and international efforts to put an end to this unjustified war", a spokesman of the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation said Monday.

"The Kingdom of Morocco, said the spokesman, given its total attachment to its Islamic and Arab commitments and anxious about averting bloodshed of Moslems, appeals for Iran to halt its military operations inside the Iraq territory and calls on the two parties to consider the spirit of Islam and act accordingly in order to safeguard life and dignity of Moslems. It also calls upon the Islamic ummah to make further efforts to stop this hemorrhage whose serious consequences would constitute a catastrophe for the whole Islamic world".

SUDAN

Foreign Ministry Urges End to Iran-Iraq War

JN111733 Khartoum SUNA in English 1722 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 11 (SUNA) — Sudan condemned the continuity of the Iraq Iran war and called on Iran to withdraw its troops without preconditions. In a communique issued today the Foreign Ministry urged the warring countries to put an end to the war be:ween them. Sduan expressed anxiety and regret over the fighting which is taking place since yesterday when the Iranian troops launched an offensive against the Iraqi targets.

Ugandan Delegation Requests Mediation Efforts

JN111547 Khcrtoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Feb (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub has disclosed that the Ugandan delegation which visited the country recently has requested Sudan's mediation to achieve stability and security in Uganda. He said that Sudan agreed to the request by the Ugandan delegation. This came during the minister's meeting with heads of the national and party media organs at noon today.

The foreign minister said that the message which General Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council, received from Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni as conveyed by the Ugandan delegation at the beginning of this week, asserts the strong relations between the two countries and shows concern for developing fraternal relations and keeping them away from international polarization. The minister said that in his message to Gen Siwar al-Dhahab,President Museveni called on Sudan to exert efforts to convince the Ugandan parties which rejected cooperation with the new regime in Uganda and fled to Sudan to cooperate with the new regime.

Further Details

JN111805 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Khartoum, Feb 11, (SUNA) — The Ugandan delegation which visited Sudan recently has asked for Sudan's help in maintaining peace and security there, Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub revealed today. Ayyub briefing newsmen here today also admitted that Sudan has accepted the Ugandan request and carried out endeavours on this regard. Museveni reaffirmed his readiness to negotiate with the other Ugandan factions in order to reach a peaceful settlement, Ayyub said, adding that the Ugandan president pointed out that all the former governmental troops had yielded to the new authorities.

The Sudanese authorities, in accordance with Museveni demands, had contacted the Ugandan factions and organized the Ugandan delegates visit to Juba capital of the Southern Region, Ayyub said. He added the Ugandan delegates had conferred with the Ugandan factions requesting their return home.

Anya Nya Two Forces Down SPLA Helicopter

JN111749 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb. 11 — SUNA — The Ayna Nya Two forces have shot down a helicopter belonging to Sudan People's Liberation Army of Col. John Garang in the Upper Nile, Defence Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah said today. The minister said the Anya Nya Two troops are working in collaboration with army in chasing away the forces of Col. Garang along the joint frontiers with Ethiopia.

The helicopter which was shot down by the Anya Nya Two at Bokting in the Upper Nile near the Ethiopian Borders, had been spotted ferrying supplies to the forces of Col. Garang in the recent days, the minister said.

The Anya Nya Two is a splinter group that had been fighting the government but it halted activities after the April popular uprising and accepted the dialogue approach.

Rebels Claim 18 Government Troops Killed

EA112006 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Excerpt] SPLA forces under the command of Maj Gawig Duwal conducted two successful raids on Waat town, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. According to our correspondent in Upper Nile, the first raid on Waat was on 4th February 1986, in which 11 enemy soldiers were killed. The second raid, on 8th February 1986 resulted in the burning down of the whole market in Waat and killing of seven enemy soldiers and wounding five others and destroying one bore well. Correspondents said that the enemy soldiers in Waat were newly brought from Khartoum.

TUNISIA

Government Affirms Solidarity With Iraq

LD111759 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The Tunisian Republic received with great dismay the news of the escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war through the attack launched by Iranian forces in the past 2 days and their seizing of Iraqi territory. This news has caused great concern to President

Habib Bourguiba who has always condemned this war and warned against its dire consequences for the two concerned countries in particular and for the region in general.

The Tunisian Government has expressed its deep indignation that this attack was a response to repeated attempts by well-meaning people to end this war and its tragedies. It was also a response to Iraq's positive view of these efforts by people who still believe that war is not the right way to solve problems, whatever they may be, and that peaceful negotiation would secure everyone's interests and safeguard coexistence between peoples.

Therefore, the Tunisian Government strongly urges that this offensive be stopped immediately and calls on world public opinion to intensify and coordinate its efforts to end this war, to impose peaceful solutions on the conflicting parties in order to distance the threat of tension from the region, and to prevent its aggravating consequences from affecting world peace.

The Tunisian Government has expressed its solidarity with the Iraqi Government, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Beji Caid Essebsi spoke to Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz about this.

A delegation will leave Tunis in the next few hours to take part in the seven-man committee which will meet in Baghdad in the context of the Arab League to discuss the situation.

President Receives Klibi, Message From Gabon Leader

LD111438 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba received Chedli Klibi, the Arab League secretary general, after his return from Gabon. He stated that he conveyed a verbal message from President El-Hadj Omar Bongo.

He said that he discussed the painful events currently taking place in the Arab east between the two neighboring Muslim countries, Iraq and Iran.

President Habib Bourguiba expressed his great concern over the continuation of this war and his support for efforts to begin peace talks and finally solve the conflict between the two countries in accordance with international law.

ETHIOPIA

Greek Foreign Minister Leaves After Four-Day Visit

EA112132 Addis Ababa Domestic Service Amharic 1700 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Karolos Papoulias has stated that a joint commission work on strengthening the long standing historical relations and comprehensive cooperation between revolutionary Ethiopia and Greece would soon be formed. The Greek foreign minister, stated this today at Debre Zeit airport at the end of his 4-day working tour of revolutionary Ethiopia.

In his statement, the foreign minister said the talks with senior officials during his stay in Ethiopia were based on mutual understanding, adding that they had revealed the willingness of the two sides for future cooperation. The foreign minister went on to say that his working tour at the head of a high-level Greek delegation has opened a new chapter, adding that it would make possible the formation of a joint commission and open up new areas of cooperation.

Mr Karolos said the joint cooperation commission will cover the light and medium industrial, agricultural, educational, cultural, tourism and other sectors, explaing that exhaustive discussions had been held by professionals of the two sides. He said his country would continue to help towards alleviating the problems of our country's drought-hit compatriots.

He noted that his talks with Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE [Workers Part of Ethiopia] Central Committee Secretary general, PMAC chairman and command-in-chief of the revolutionary armed forces, on bilateral issues and the exchanges of views with senior officials had been fruitful.

The foreign minister was seen off at Debre Zeit airport by Comrade Goshu Wolde, WPE Central Committee member and foreign minister.

ANC Press Release on South African's Resignation

EA111145 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Compatriots: A press release of the African National Congress following the resignation of Dr Van Zyl Slabbert from the racist tricameral parliament in South Africa last Friday [7 Feb] reads as follows:

An act of vision has made this February day a moment of pride for all the people in South Africa. A solemn salute of honor is due to Dr Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert who earlier on Friday announced his resignation from the South African parliament. Never in the history of our country has a white establishment political leader confronted the inequaity of the system of white minority domination as Dr Slabbert did on Friday.

We salute his courage, his honesty, and his loyalty to a common South African nation. These have led him to abandon a privileged and prestigous political position, an act which will be totally unacceptable to many of the people among whom he was born and bred. Yet again, millions of our people of all races will acclaim Dr Slabbert as a new Voortrekker who has broken with the tradition of Afrikaaner and white leadership which has sanctiified racism and racial superiority. He has aligned his being and his talent with the countless heroes and heroines who have perished in the struggle to assert the common unity of the people of South Africa.

His refusal to remain in the racist tricamerical parliament must serve as an example to all who consider themselves opponents of the apartheid system and yet continue to be part of the oppressive and repressive structure of the system of white minority rule. This includes all those who man the Bantustans, sit in the tricameral parliament and others who might wish to serve in Botha's proposed National Statutory Council.

We take seriously Dr Slabberts call for a negotiated settlement of the South African question. We would like to reiterate that we are always ready to negotiate for a South Africa which belongs to all who live in it, black and white. But no negotiations are possible while the Botha regime refuses to recognize that our people must live together in one country as equals and each with the right to vote for the political representative of their own choice. Our task remains that of removing the apartheid system in its totality.

Therefore, the struggle must and will continue for the removal of the apartheid regime and the institution of a democratic system of government in a united South Africa. We look forward to Dr Slabbert's contribution towards the achievement of that goal.

African National Congress National Executive.

ANC Issues Call for 'One Man, One Vote'

EA092224 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Station commentary entitled "No Negotiated Settlement Under Apartheid"]

[Text] Compatriots, the unfolding of events inside and outside our country points to one thing and one thing only: that the beginning of the collapse of the apartheid system has commenced. The repeated calls from within the White camp telling Botha to find a so-called amicable solution to the racial problem show that even the whites are now aware that apartheid is dying. However, the ruling clique, like all other oppressive dictators of this nature, is still determined to struggle for its survival.

Today, Botha's struggle is for survival. His plans are only meant to add as much days as possible to the lifespan of apartheid. That is why last week on Friday [7 Feb], when opening his racist parliament, Botha claimed that his regime was now prepared to give Africans a voice in the running of the country. He then announced the intention to establish a so-called national (? security) council which will include all the sellouts in our community and they will meet under Botha's chairmanship. [word indistinct] Botha claimed that he was opening doors to Africans to voice their opinions about the running of the country.

On Thursday this week, the racist foreign minister, Roelof Botha, told foreign correspondents in Cape Town that he does not rule out the inevitability of a black president by the end of this century. He, however, added that that can only happen along the lines charted out by the racist regime based on so-called power sharing.

He also said with the (? security) council Africans can push their ideas and views until such time that there can be a black president. All this empty talk is based on the regime's strategy of a so-called negotiated settlement. The racists, having realized that apartheid is crumbling, are now trying a new tactic that will ensure the preservation of white minority domination. This noise about power sharing is solely aimed at that, but the policy of our people does not permit of that.

We, the oppressed majority, will never accept any solution that is not based on one man, one vote. We maintain that the first thing that has to be done is to transform our country into a democratic state based on the principle of one man, one vote. Any other negotiations will follow thereafter. Before any negotiations a genuine representative of the people must pass through an election test. Let (?the system) rid us of the self-appointed leaders.

In his New Year message to the nation, the president of the ANC Comrade Oliver Tambo stated that there can be no negotiated settlement as long as the regime refuses to accept the fact that our country must be a democratic non-racial and undivided entity.

[Begin Tambo recording] There can be no negotiated settlement of the South African question while the Botha regime continues to imprison our leaders and refuses to acknowledge that South Africa must become an undivided, democratic and non-racial country. It is today abundantly clear to all who look at our situation soberly that apartheid has proved to be a national disaster. The Pretoria regime has not once accepted that. It is dead set against the emergence of a fundamentally new social and political system in our country. These positions are the cause of the grave confrontation in South Africa, which will not cease until our country does indeed belong to all who live in it — black and white. [end recording]

Fellow countrymen: Botha is today portraying himself as a major protector of minorities, because he is trying to find a way of preserving white minority domination. The empty talks about power sharing are aimed at that goal. What really does the enemy mean about this power sharing? Who is sharing with whom? With whom are the people of South Africa expected to share power in their own country? They claim that they are (?proud) to protect the interests of the minorities, which will be dominated and suppressed by those of the majority. Which minorities [words indistinct] together? Is it not that the freedom charter of our people stated categorically that all national groups shall have equal rights? Which interests of minorities that are in contrast with those of the majority that Botha wants so much to protect?

It is clear, fellow countrymen, that the main objective of this jargon is to protect the interests of the people in power and nothing else. They are the only people who have a lot to lose with the implementation of the freedom charter. Our white compatriots might not be aware of it, but the fact is that the freedom charter is in their long term interest also.

But there is nothing in common between our freedom charter and the [words indistinct]. They are the minorities that Botha is talking about. Now, when he talks about power sharing, he means that the people of South Africa, after having suffered for so long, must still agree to open doors and share power with the big businessmen and land owners. In other words, we must not take over these industries, which are the pillar of the economy of this country. If we don't do that, then what independence are we taling about? How can we speak of independence when our national wealth [words indistinct] is still owned by a few exploiters? How can we be free when the big industries which maintain the economy of this country are still in private hands? How can we determine our independent line of development while the wealth of the country is not in our hands? Botha knows very well that political independence without economic independence is no [word indistinct]. The one who holds the economy plays the tune and the rest will have to dance. Now, are we expected to dance to the tune of the government with (?open) [word indistinct]? Is is to our [word indistinct]? Needless to say that such a situation will mean that the sacrifices of our forefathers, our relatives and friends who have died over these years of (?travail) will have (?been in vain). It will mean the tree of freedom that Solomon (Mashambe), Bengamin Moloise, (?James) (Mludi) and many others watered with precious blood will not have [word indistinct] (?anyone).

In other words, for our nation to agree to Botha's negotiated settlement under apartheid will be tantamount to betraying the (?martyrs) who have died for our nation. The position of the democratic majority in our country today is that there is nothing that we can talk about with Botha except the issue of the transfer of power to the majority. We are not struggling in order to set around a conference table with the murderers of our people and draft a new constitution for our country. We are saying the country must first be transformed into a democratic one along the lines of one man, one vote, and thereafter the elected representatives will sit around a conference table and draft the constitution for those (?in) [words indistinct]. Without [word indistinct], how can we determine who is representing whom? Any Tom, Dick and Harry can claim to be a leader and then demand a (?status) seat at the conference table.

On the other hand, we (?disagree) to a conference table discussion with Botha today when he still keeps our leaders in jail. Secondly, we, the democratic majority, maintain that Botha's regime is illegal and has no right whatsoever to decide for the people. We say the apartheid regime is based on inequality, on (?domination) of one race or another. (?Such a few) cannot under any circumstances bring democratic rights. So, when you talk about a democratic constitution, we cannot expect an undemocratic enemy like Botha to [words indistinct].

In the first place, Botha is the representative of the white race and a big capitalist. All what he does is in the interest of his constituents. That is why he never cares when our people are murdered in their hundreds. That is why, instead of listening to our demands, he simply declares a state of emergency. That is why when after [words indistinct] crisis in education conference last (?September), his minister of education, De Klerk, declared that there will never be a non-racial and democratic system of education as long as the Nationalist party is (?in)[word indistinct] in this country. With his statement (?on Tuesday) De Klerk was expressing the views of his constituents, a racist element within the white community, so how can you expect such racists to draft a constitution for our country? That is why we the oppressed (?but)[word indistinct] majority maintain that the only thing that we can talk about with Botha is the mechanism for the (?staged) transfer of power unto the hands of the majority. If he is not prepared to discuss that we will still take over that power [wrds indistinct]. We are not begging him to transfer it.

Others within the ruling clique claim that the ANC is power (?hungry) and that it does not want to share power with other political (?groupings). This is utter nonsense. In the first place, the ANC does not want power for the sake of it, but it is leading the people who are fighting for power, it is the majority of the people of ourcountry under the ANC'S leadership that want power. We say the first thing is to transform our country into a democratic (?state) and let people to decide who must [words indistinct].

It is not because we are [word indistinct], but it is because it is only the ANC [words indistinct] element together with the mass democratic movement of our people that represent the interest of the nation. That is why, as Comrade Tavo Mbeki [words indistinct] our main task today is to pin on our banners the demands of [words indistinct].

[Begin Mbeki recording] The first and most important thing that we need to do is to pin on our banners the demand: Botha must go. Botha must go, because he does not represent the people of South Africa. His regime is illegitimate and unacceptable, even when it has a sprinkling of puppets who have been rejected by the black people. Botha must go, because his rule can only mean untold suffering for the majority of the people of our country. Let the call resound throughout our country: the tyrant Botha must go. Let us make this call wherever we meet, whatever struggle we are engaged in, be it local or national. We are not asking the [word indistinct] to reform the apartheid system. We are not interested whether he keeps as they are or amends the immorality and mixed marriages acts. We are not pinning our hopes on Botha setting down with us around a conference table to draw up a new democratic constitution for South Africa. We are not pinning our hopes on this, because we know Botha is not interested in a just solution of the South African problem. All that interests him is the defense and perpetuation of the apartheid system which we have rejected in our millions.

Dear compatriots, the solution to our problems lies in the downfall and destruction of the Botha regime. The tyrant Botha must go. We should not allow anybody to divert us from this demand. We must reject unequivocally all the lies that are told that Botha is experiencing a change of heart, that this tyrant has suddenly become a reformer and a peace maker. There can be no sharing of interests between ourselves and our oppressors. Botha must go. And yet we know that the Botha-Malan regime will not disappear simply because we say so. It is only through unrelenting, all-round political and military struggle that we will force the Botha regime to go. When we say Botha must go, we mean that we are no longer prepared to be ruled by a regime which has no authority to govern our country — a regime whose illegal rules we are challenging every day. It is therefore clear that in our continuing offensive against the Pretoria regime we must [words indistinct] so that we are no longer prepared to be ruled by the racist and fascist clique of usurpers. We must destroy the enemy organs of government. We must render them ineffective and inoperative. [end recording]

But this does not in any way mean that the ANC is not prepared to hold talks with the regime. Any such talks can only take place, as our president put it, after the regime has, among other things, released our imprisoned leaders and declared its intention to genuinely dismantle apartheid.

[Begin Tambo recording] [words indistinct] political figures which have to have been released, enabling the people's leaders like Comrade Nelson Mandela and others to participate in such talks on the basis of unrestricted freedom of each movement and association in the country. They would have to have the freedom to [words indistinct] of leaving the country and going abroad [word indistinct] (?or) visiting. Secondly, the regime would have to prepare for talks on (?procedures) aimed not at reforming the apartheid system, but at replacing it with a new social system along the lines of the freedom charter. Other conditions will be more properly elaborated when all the political leaders and prisoners are released and in full consultation with them. There are conditions but we do not have to [words indistinct] (?prepare) a proper consensus among the [word indistinct] of our people. [end recording]

In the meantime, the ANC [words indistinct] will continue to have some discussions with those who are opposed to the (?matter). (?but) all those who are opposed to racism and fascism must act together to end white minority rule. In this regard, the ANC will continue to encourage individuals and groups within our country to contribute what they can towards the victory of democratic government. It is with this view in mind that we have met and will continue to meet various people, including business (?people), politicians, trade unionists, religious people to encourage the broadest possible united offensive against apartheid.

KENYA

Greek Foreign Minister Meets With Ministers

NC081633 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1600 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias, who is continuing his African tour, met with Kenya's ministers of foreign affairs and national defense in Nairobi. During these sessions, Papoulias explained Greek foreign policy and expressed Greece's desire to further promote bilateral relations in the fields of economics, technology, tourism, and education.

UGANDA

Kigongo Says NRC To Expand Membership Roll

EA111124 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 11 Feb 86 p1

[Text] Kampala, Monday: Uganda's new legislative body, called the National Resistance Council (NRC), is to be enlarged to 100 or more members, its chairman, Mr Moses Kigongo, told newsmen yesterday.

President Museveni was on Saturday officially sworn in as a member of the NRC, which so far consists of a nucleus membership of 23. The original membership consists of Mr Museveni (president), Dr Samson Kisekka (prime minister), Mr Moses Kigongo (chairman), two women, one Roman Catholic priest, the commander of the National Resistance Army (NRA), Mr Elly Tumwine, his deputy, Mr Fred Rwigyema, a member of the overall command, Mr Salim Saleh, members of the NRA HighCommand, senior NRA officers, and civilians.

At the beginning of this month, the National Resistance Council meeting in Kampala elected Mr Museveni as chairman of the National Resistance Movement. Before his election he had been interim chairman of the NRM since the death of its first chief, Prof Yusuf Lule, about 2 years ago. Prof Lule was the country's first post-Amin president. At the time of Mr Lule's death, Mr Museveni was first vice chairman of the NRM, while Mr Kigongo was second vice chairman.

Mr Kigongo told newsmen in an interview that the full council would accommodate representatives from all political parties, as well as nonpartisan ones from all districts to be elected democratically under the guidance of the council.

Meanwhile, Mr Museveni has invited diplomats, religious leaders and press to see for themselves the atrocities committed by former presidents Milton Obote and General Tito Okello.

CHAD

Rebels Ready for Unconditional Peace Talks

AB110848 Paris AFP in English 0752 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text]Ouagadougou, Feb 11 (AFP) — The Chad rebel movement GUNT headed by former President Goukouni Oueddei is ready to negotiate a peaceful settlement with the government without any pre-conditions, senior GUNT official Rakhis Mannany told AFP here Monday night.

Mr Mannany is in charge of defence matters on the permanent secretariat of GUNT (Transitional Government of National Union), which holds northern Chad with the backing of Libya. He said GUNT had now succeeded in reuniting all the factions which were party to the Lagos agreements of 1979 — except for the forces of current Chadian President Hissein Habre — and that the time had come "to open the doors to negotiation, without putting ourselves forward in a position of weakness."

Mr Mannany said negotiations might be staged here in Burkina Faso, or in Ghana, where he is due next on a mission to explain GUNT's availability for unconditional peace talks. He arrived from Mali, where he delivered a message from Mr Goukouni relating to President Moussa Traore's failed bid to arrange a meeting between Mr Goukouni and Mr Habre in March last year.

Mr Mannany dismissed as "pseudo-reconciliation" this weekend's meeting in Gabon of several anti-GUNT factions. He said it was a French-inspired manoeuvre to pretend GUNT had lost substance.

Continuing Reportage on Fighting in North

Kouba Olanga Recaptured

AB111923 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The victory of a people depends on their determination. Kouba Olanga is still under the control of the legal forces of Chad. Yes, Kouba is still a Chadian town. This show of determination has achieved positive results because the Libyan invaders have been forced out of Kouba Olanga. The counter-offensive was launched this morning by the Chadian National Armed Forces. Our valiant fighting forces are now combing out the town. This is the latest piece of news we have received so far.

Envoy in Paris Confirms Report

AB121225 Paris AFP in French 1146 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 12 Feb (AFP) — The Chadian Government post of Kouba Olanga, located at some 550 km north of Ndjamena and which was attacked by the "Libyan troops and alike" on Monday, is under the control of the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT), Chadian ambassador to Paris, Allam-Mi Ahmad stated today.

The assailants were defeated, he told AFP, and 350 of them including "black Libyans and nationals from various other African countries" were captured. "We are controlling the entirety of the zone." The details on the equipment seized will be made known later, Mr Allam-Mi said.

In the Oum Chalouba-Kalait zone, at about 750 km northeast of the Chadian capital, which was attacked early yesterday afternoon, the fighting continued into the night, the ambassador indicated. According to the Chadian radio, the government forces killed or captured "hundreds" of enemy troops. Oum Chalouba is the FANT's outpost in the northeast of Chad. It is located on the 16th parallel which was the "danger line" drawn up by France when its troops intervened in Chad in 1983-84 within the framework of the Manta Operation.

(In a communique sent out from Fada in northeast Chad to AFP in Paris, Mr Goukouni, president of the Transitional National Union Government, stated today that his forces had taken control of Kouba Olanga, Oum Chalouba and Koro-Toro.)

Libyans Open New Front

AB111956 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] We wish a lot of courage to our valiant armed forces whose fighting spirit, courage, and determination matches their refusal of (?humiliation), servitude, and slavery. The whole Chadian nation supports their acts which are sublimely in the national interests, especially at this very moment when these same forces are confronting the Libyan invaders on our soil, on another soil. [sentences as heard]

In fact, while the fighting was still going on in Kouba, the Libyans opened another warfront. This time they attacked Oum Chalouba-Kalait. According to information received just before the beginning of this newscast, the fierce fighting which began in the early afternoon at 1347 is still going on. Whatever the case may be, the Chadian people have a just cause which they will defend to the last.

GUNT Claims Capture of Towns

AB121045 Paris AFP in French 1027 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 12 Feb (AFP) — The Transitional National Union Government, GUNT, (armed opposition to President Hissein Habre) claimed today that it has captured the localities of Koro-Toro and Kouba Olanga, at 600 and 550 km respectively north of Ndjamena, and Oum Chalouba at about 750 km northeast of the capital. It attibutes responsibility for the resumption of fighting to the Ndjamena government.

In a communique sent out from Fada (northeast Chad) to AFP in Paris, Goukouni Oueddei, the GUNT president, stated that "on 10 February at 1500, the enemy forces attacked the outposts" of the GUNT. "The response of the National Liberation Army (ANL — the GUNT army) was energetic. Fighting took place at the 16th parallel. We have taken control of the Koro-Toro and Kouba Olanga garrisons."

The communique added that the Oum Chalouba garrison fell to the ANL on Tuesday and that the casualty counts will be sent out "very shortly." "Responsibility for the resumption of the hostilities falls on the Ndjamena reactionary group," the communique further said. Their "objective", it added, "is to destroy the peace initiatives of the GUNT and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) aimed at achieving a peaceful solution to the Chadian crisis."

The GUNT denies "categorically" the participation of Libyan troops in the fighting along with the ANL troops and "calls on all foreign states not to interfere in a purely Chadian matter because this can further complicate the matter."

Rebels Trained in Benin

AB112103 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Kouba Olanga is still under the control of the legal Chadian forces; better still Kouba is still a Chadian town. In spite of Libya's war of invasion in Chad, some patriots who were once on the side of Al-Qadhdhafi because of his oil money, have realized that Libya will not, and never will, favor of peace in Chad. Several of our fellow countrymen have left the camps in the occupied part of our country and have returned to free Chad, braving all the mortal dangers of the Libyan machines of repression. Others, who were living outside Chad, in Libya or elsewhere, have also tried to return to our camp with interesting stories. Their accounts of Al-Qadhdhafi's actions are [words indistinct].

In fact [words indistinct] the example we have today is a revelation made by Mr Salim Adep Bukignan. Mr Bukignan, who lives abroad and has just returned to Ndjamena, said this morning that some countries are Libya's satellites. They recruit and nurture mercenaries who are to be sent to Libyan training camps or to the battlefront in Chad. Mr Bukignan said for example that Benin is hosting group of representatives of the pseudo-government of the Transitional National Union Government at Libya's request, a group which is no less a branch of the Libyan People's Bureau in the Beninese capital. That is why the movement of Chadians in Cotonou are watched. Chadians who are to receive military training are sent to a camp called PK 18, 18 kilometers from Cotonou.

Among us Chadians, there are those who claim to be under the leadership of Al-Qadhdhafi. They are trained to serve as agents to carry out important, special missions. This holds for Abderrahmane Salfadine, who received in 1984 the sum of 120 million CFA francs from the Libyans to sabotage some government buildings and embassies in Chad. Mr Salfadine was ordered to set fire to the Ndjamena airport, blow up the U.S. Embassy in Ndjamena, and bribe prison wardens in order to obtain the release of Libyan prisoners of war. Most of these acts of sabotage have failed, largely due to the patriotism of some Chadians [words indistinct]. [passage indistinct]

GABON

Spending Cuts Announced Due to Oil Price 'Slide'

AB081244 Paris AFP in English 1149 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, Feb 8 (AFP) — Gabonese President Omar Bongo, responding to the recent slide in oil prices and in the dollar exchange-rate, has announced a plan to cut some 270 million dollars off the budget of his oil-rich central African state.

In a televised address to the country's estimated 1 million inhabitants, Mr Bongo said the "serious economic situation" both at home and abroad meant that 100 billion CFA francs would have to be cut from the 1986 budget, which had previously been set at 720 billion CFA (1.95 billion dollars). Half of the cuts, or 50 billion CFA, would be achieved by freezing all state investment contracts currently under discussion, as well as any others recently concluded but not included in the 1986 draft budget, the president added. This measure would also allow Gabon to save an estimated 90 billion CFA (244 million dollars) in 1987, Mr Bongo said. A further 18 billion CFA would be saved this year, as well as 30 billion in 1987, by cuts in current spending, he said, adding that salaries would be maintained "at their 1985 level."

Mr Bongo also announced the setting-up of a special commission to examine spending decisions by all state-funded bodies. "Absolute priority should be given to productive projects, particularly in the agricultural and mining sectors," he said.

In particular, Mr Bongo asked his government to "rapidly acquire significant holdings" in the trading and processing companies which are the main customers for Gabon's tropical wood output.

(?"I can assure you that our country) is not on the edge of a (?precipice.") He warned that the coming three years "are likely to be difficult if we don't watch out today."

Oil supplied 84 percent of Gabon's gross domestic product in 1983, with most of the rest being supplied by minerals such as manganese and uranium.

GHANA

PNDC Member on Relations With United States

AB102243 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Alhaji Mahama Idrissu has restated that the creation of a just and equitable international system is the only way in which genuine world peace can be assured. He noted that the exploitative the international trade and financial systems are the main cause of Third World nations' poverty, squalor, desease. He therefore called for a review of the present North-South relations to eradicate the unfavorable conditions. Alhaji Idrissu was speaking at the anniversary of the Tema branch of the Ghana-U.S. Friendship Association. The Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] member noted that the Third World nations cannot get a good deal under the present international economic order in which the rich industrialized nations determined both the prices for their industrial products and those of the raw material of the developing countries.

Alhaji Idrissu noted, for instance, that developing countries can have a better deal if their products are guaranteed against fluctuations in commodities prices. He suggested that their products entering markets of the developed countries can also be duty free in addition to increased technical and financial assistance for a rapid development.

Alhaji Idrissu noted that certain trends in world affairs pose a serious threat to world peace. Examples are racism in South Africa and the outright syphoning out of wealth by multinational cooperations as in Namibia. The PNDC member urged members of the Association to use their platform to enhance areas of agreement between Ghana and the United States. The U.S. ambassador, Mr Robert Fritts, in his speech admitted that the world and North-South relations have been marked by varying degrees of injustice and inequality and hoped that current global trends will push North-South relations in positive directions. Mr Fritts said, contrary to reports, the United States has not cut its aid to Ghana, adding that with further commitment on the part of the United States this year, a greater cooperation could be achieved.

IVORY COAST

Diplomatic Relations Established With Cuba

AB111215 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 11 Feb 86

["Communique from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs" — read by announcer]

[Text] The Government of the Republic of Ivory Coast and the Government of the Republic of Cuba — who desire to strengthen their bonds of friendship and develop cooperation between their two peoples on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual respect of sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity, and noninterference in the internal affairs of each state — have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of Tuesday, 11 February; that is as of today. The two governments will appoint their ambassadors at a convenient time.

LIBERIA

Foreign Minister on Possible Duvalier Asylum

AB112057 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr J. Bernard Blamo said the Liberia Government will have no reservation to grant asylum to former Haitian President Jean-Claude Duvalier and his family if such request was made. He said as a member of United Nations, Liberia believes in the right of asylum to anyone seeking to reside in our country.

Minister Blamo made the statement today in an interview with LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY LINA at the Foreign Ministry in Monrovia when he spoke on the trend of Liberia's foreign policy under the new civilian government. Certainly the government of Liberian will have no objection for a request to be placed and forwarded to us, Mr Blamo said, in relations to Duvalier's asylum. Liberia's foreign minister noted that Liberia believes in the universal declaration of human rights. He added that Liberia, Haiti, and Ethiopia were the few black nations that participated in the formation of the United Nations Charter in June 1945. Dr Blamo also recalled that Haiti and Liberian had enjoyed freindly and cordial relations over the years.

Commenting on the trend of Liberia's foreign policy following the transition from military to civilian rule, Minister Blamo said Liberia's foreign policy remains unchanged, or (?at least) in principle, although modifications may occur because of national interest. Dr Blamo further said Liberia as a founding member of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and the Nonaligned Movement fully subscribes to the respective charters of those world bodies. Minister Blamo said Liberia will continue to foster international peace and cooperation as well as establish relations with an country willing to reciprocate friendship. Mr Blamo later pledged to do his utmost in meeting the challenges of the office of foreign minister of Liberia.

AFP Report

AB111601 Paris AFP in French 1543 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Monrovia, 11 Feb (AFP) — Liberia does not "object" to granting political asylum to the deposed Haitian president, Jean-Claude Duvalier and his followers, if an application is made to this effect, announced the Liberian minister of foreign affairs, J. Bernard Blamo on Tuesday in Monrovia. As a member of the United Nations, Liberia "believes in the right to grant asylum to any person who wants to live in our country," added the minister, pointing out to AFP however that Mr Duvalier had not yet applied for asylum in Liberia. [Words indistinct] and that they had maintained cordial and [words indistinct] relations." It will be recalled that the former Haitian president was granted temporary asylum in France at the end of last week.

Doe Speaks at Commissioning of New Officials

AB111006 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] President Samuel K. Doe has urged government officials to consistently remember that they are the servants of the people and they are therefore required to offer their best in order to enjoy the confidence and the respect of the people of this country. President Doe also (?told) the officials that they are expected to be honest, diligent, and willing to render sacrificial services to all those they come in contact with. The Liberian chief executive was speaking today when he commissioned several newly appointed government officials in the parlors of the Executive Mansion. President Doe further cautioned the officials that selfishness, greed, tribalism, among others, have no place among decent men and women as we hear in this replay of our recording from our national radio station:

[Begin Doe recording] We urge you to keep in mind that selfishness, greed, tribalism, and corruption have no place among decent men and women. [applause](?Ladies and gentlemen), the days ahead will be most challenging for all of us. During this period, you will be required to [words indistinct] violence in order to foster peace and good will among all our citizens and promote good government in this republic. It is our hope [words indistinct] and the ministers of justice and labor will become even more vigilant in the discharge of their duties and ensure the speedy disposition of cases and all matters before them. At the same time, we expect that all those in positions of trust will take the necessary initiative needed to get things done. This will certainly relieve the Executive Mansion of the constant pressure imposed upon it from the outside, even in every simple matter.

Finally, as I induct you into office today, I want to (?impress) upon you the values of unity and patriotism. After all, this country is for all of us, and it is our duty to labor for its prosperity. The success of leadership depends on all of you. Our failure is your failure. We must therefore work together conscientiously and carefully to build our country and make Liberia a true haven for all of us to enjoy now and in the future. I thank you. [end recording]

Opposition Party Calls for New Elections,Power Sharing

AB110934 Paris AFP in English 0758 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Monrovia, Feb 11 (AFP) — The opposition Liberia Unification Party (LUP) has re-issued its call for an immediate all-party summit conference for national reconcilition to discuss a wide range of national issues, including a call for fresh elections or power-sharing.

In a memorandum Monday to the ruling National Democratic Party (NDPL) and two other opposition parties, the LUP proposed an agenda which includes power-sharing among the four political parties. The LUP said the posts of foreign minister, defence and five other cabinet posts should go the NDPL, while the remaining 11 cabinet posts should be shared mong the Liberia Action Party (LAP), the Unity Party (UP) and itself.

The memorandum also proposed that if fresh elections are not held, all political parties should have one-fourth each of the 90 seats in the legislature. LUP also said government should accept liability for the deaths of civilians during the November 12 coup plot, and pay for homes and houses looted or burnt. All political prisoners detained during the coup attempt should be compensated for damage they suffered, the LUP said.

The party also suggested that persons dismissed or retrenched by government for their political affiliation be re-instated with retroactive pay, and that all military and para-military personnel in civil offices be replaced by civilians. Molestation and harassment of motorists and the detention of travellers at military-controlled check points along highways should be stopped immediately, the LUP said.

The LUP, which along with the LAP and the UP filed a joint complaint to the Special Elections Commission about voting fraud during the October national polls, accused the commission of failing to investigate their complaint. "The elections commission has compromised with and admittedly participated to a large extent in the elections irregularities", the LUP charged.

NIGER

Diplomatic Relations Established With Zimbabwe

AB102024 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Unattributed announcement]

[Text] Loyal to the ideal of African unity, to the UN Charter, and to the Nonalignment Movement's principles, acting in accordance with the declaration of the UN General Assembly on the principles of the international law relating to the friendly relations and cooperation between states, and desirous of promoting and developing fruitful relationship of friendship and cooperation between their two countries and peoples, and positively contributing to the solution of the major problems of the African Continent and of the world in general, the Government of the Republic of Niger and the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe have decided to establish between them diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of Monday, 10 Febrauary, 1986.

NIGERIA

Lagos Radio Reports 'Normalization' of Ties With UK

AB111529 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The British Government has announced the appointment of Morton Ewans as Britain's new high commissioner to Nigeria. Mr Ewans is also accredited to Benin Republic as a nonresident ambassador. The last British high commissioner to Nigeria was recalled in mid-1984 following the diplomatic row generated by the Umaro Dikko affair. Britain had barred the Nigerian high commissioner in London, who was in Lagos for consultations, from returning to his post.

A Radio Nigeria correspondent remarked that the appointment of a new high commissioner by Britain indicates a normalization of relations between Nigeria and Britain. The correspondent says the Federal Government is expected to announce the appointment of a Nigerian high commissioner to Britain soon.

AFP Report

AB111410 Paris AFP in French 1324 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] London, 11 Feb (AFP) — The British Government announced on Tuesday the appointment of a new high commissioner (ambassador) to Lagos replacing its representative who had been recalled "for consultations" 18 months ago, at the start of a crisis in the Anglo-Nigerian bilateral relations. A spokesman of the Foreign Office pointed out that M.K. Ewans would assume his duties in Lagos at the end of February. This appointment, announced on Tuesday, is seen by diplomatic circles as a full restoration of diplomatic relations, even though the Foreign Office insisted on Tuesday that these relations were never broken off.

In an interview published on Tuesday by the financial daily, *THE FINANCIAL TIMES*, President Ibrahim Babangida announced for his part that the Nigerian Government was about to send a new ambassador to London. The deterioration in the relations between the two countries was sparked off in July 1985 in London by an attempt to kidnap former Nigerian transport minister Umaru Dikko who is being sought by his country for "corruption."

Nigeria, PRC Mark Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations

AB102207 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Nigeria and China today marked the 15th anniversary of their establishment of diploamtic relations. The minister of external affairs, Professor Bolaji Akinyemi, and his Chinese counterpart, Mr Wu Xuequian, exchanged messages of goodwill to mark the occasion. Diplomatic correspondent, Tuge Evoigbe, has the details:

[Evoigbe] Nigeria and China signed the communique formally establishing diplomatic relations in Cairo in 1971. The following year, an agreement on economic and technical cooperation was signed by the two countries in Lagos. Since then, there has been exchange of economic and cultural delegations, for many Chinese are involved in the development of rice projects, bore-holes, industrial centers, sports, and acupuncture in different parts of Nigeria. Another agreement on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation was initialled in Lagos in MARCH 1981, and this led to the establishment of a joint commission which held its first session in Beijing in 1982. The second session was held in Lagos in June last year. The joint commission's major objective was to implement decisions that would lead to expansion of cooperation in agriculture, light industry, health, and metallurgy, as well as trade. But statistics show that the volume of trade between Nigeria and China has been declining in the past 4 years. As such (?will) the Chinese ambassador to Nigeria, Mr (Wang Husheng), agree to it?

[Begin (Wang) recording] [Words indistinct] You may call it countertrade, barter trade, or clear accounts trade; whatever we call it, anyhow, (?we enter into) a substantial trade agreement to supply each other with commodities needed by each other. In that case, we can help each other to strengthen our economic relations. At present, the trade relations — may I say the trade amount — between China and Nigeria is so insignificant. [end recording]

[Evoigbe] Mr (Wang) said China could supply essential raw materials for light industry to Nigeria and in return purchase cocoa beans, cashew nuts, palm kernels, and crude oil.

In their messages to each other today, the Nigerian and Chinese foreign ministers expressed their desire for both countries to further exploit areas for mutually beneficial cooperation. Prof Bolaji Akinyemi said in an interview that it was necessary for officials of both nations to meet to explore more avenues for economic cooperation.

[Begin Akinyemi recording] For my point of view, the emphasis should really now.... [changes thought] should be in the strengthening rather than Nigeria being used more or less like a trading post where you import all sorts of things — perishable goods and so on. I believe that experts on both sides need to sit down and look very carefully at the economic set-up of each country and see where emphasis should be put so that Nigeria could benefit from the Chinese experience beginning in the agricultural field, and of course, in small-scale industries. [end recording]

SENEGAL

Diouf Receives Visiting Spanish Foreign Minister

AB111540 Dakar Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The Spanish minister of foreign affairs was received by the head of state this morning. After the meeting, Francisco Fernandez-Ordonex, the Spanish foreign minister, spoke to our reporter, Abdoulaye Ndiaye.

[Begin recording] [Fernandez-Ordonez] It is an honor for me to have met the president of the republic who is a great friend of Spain, of the Spanish government, and of the people. I presented him with a personal message from his majesty the king of Spain inviting him to undertake an official visit to Spain. The date will be fixed through diplomatic channels. I think that this visit will strengthen the [word indistinct] ties and the friendly relations between Senegal and Spain.

[Ndiaye] On cooperation in fishing, what will be done to strengthen this cooperation between Spain and Senegal?

[Fernandez-Ordonez] I can say that this cooperation is on a sound footing, which augurs well for the future. As you are aware Spain is now a member of the EEC, which is very interested in fishing with Senegal. Future cooperation in this area will be within the framework of the EEC. [end recording]

ANGOLA

Energy Minister Speaks on Savimbi's U.S. Visit

MB080928 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Comrade Pedro van Dunem Loy, minister of energy and petroleum and a member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party, returned to Luanda, our country's capital, this morning at the end of a 24-hour working visit to Cabinda. On arriving in Cabinda, Pedro van Dunem Loy, who is also minister of state for production, held a meeting with workers of the Cabinda Gulf Oil Company in Malongo with whom he examined issues connected with the present stance adopted by the Reagan administration aimed at fomenting bandit activities in Angola to destabilize our country economically. Speaking on the occasion, the party and government official said:

[Begin Van Dunem recording] We come here at a time when the world is disturbed by exaggerated reports of the visit to the United States by the ringleader of the bandits in order to, according to information from media sources, seek support that would enable him to eliminate communism in the southern region of our continent or prevent Soviet expansionism. I am talking about the visit to the United States by the traitor Savimbi, who is being received with the honors accorded to a head of state. He has met with the most senior U.S. officials, namely President Reagan, Secretary of State Shultz, the secretary of defense, and other senior U.S. officials to convince them to give him what he considers to be the necessary support to enable him to continue his acts of destruction against our country, our people, and our national heritage, to continue his acts of genocide and murder in our country. It would seem strange if the Reagan administration had acted logically. They are receiving Savimbi at a time when in various parts of the world, particularly in southern Africa, actions are being undertaken to find a peaceful solution to the southern African proplem — to find a solution to the Namibian problem on the basis of the UN Security Council Resolution 435. They are receiving him at a time when the foreign ministers of the Frontline States and EEC countries are meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, to find ways of minimizing the effects of the racist South African reaction against these countries if compulsory economic sanctions were applied against the Pretoria regime. [end recording]

BOTSWANA

Lesotho Delegation Arrives, Meets Masire

MB111703 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The Lesotho delegation which left this morning for consultations with six African states arrived in Botswana this afternoon. The delegation was met at the airport by the honorable minister of foreign affairs of Botswana, Dr G.K.T. Chiepe, and the chief of protocol, Mr (Etejeni).

The delegation then proceeded to the Department of External Affairs, where the leader of the delegation presented his majesty's letter to the president of Botswana, His Excellency Dr Q.K.J. Masire. In attendance at the handing over of the letter were the honorable minister of foreign affairs, Dr G.K.T. Chiepe, and permanent secretary to the president, Mr F.G. Mogaie, and secretary to the cabinet, Mrs G.G. Garebamono, and other top government officials.

The president expressed the hope to continue cooperation with Lesotho and appreciated the briefing by the delegation. The delegation also met the Zambian high commissioner.

The delegation will also visit Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Mozambiqe, and Swaziland. The special delegation consists of Lieutenant Colonel Thaabe Letsie, a member of the military council; the honorable minister of foreign affairs, Mr L.B. Monyake; and senior government officials from the office of the chairman of the Military Council and the Foreign Ministry. The delegation will return to Maseru on Thursday, 13 February.

LESOTHO

King Moshoeshoe's Statement to Nation

MB101606 Maseru Domestic Service in Sesotho 1900 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Statement to the nation by His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] I extend respect and greetings to the entire Basotho nation within and without its boundaries. On 12 January this year, one of the nation's newspapers, *MOELETSI WA BASOTHO*, carried an item with headlines "Thesele Tsoha o tlo re Pholosa" [Moshoeshoe I rise up and come to our rescue]. Beginning on Wednesday, 15 January, Lesotho began experiencing a state of alarming upheaval that reminded some of us of the painful events of the past and left us wondering about the future.

On Friday, 17 January, rumors abounded of unusual activity at the army barracks and that there was friction within the army. On the evening of that day, we were greatly alarmed to see a group of heavily armed soldiers descending on the palace to inform me that they had brought a certain section of the army to surrender to me and hand over their weapons. The events of this particular day will be documented in the history of this nation one day.

In the early hours of Monday, 20 January, an incredible announcement was made over the nation's radio station, an announcement stating that the army of Lesotho had ousted from office all those who were in the former government and that the military had assumed power, with his majesty still as head of state.

I trust that many found it difficult to believe this new turn of events at first, but the statement was broadcast time and again, with the aim of insuring that each and every Mosotho became aware of, heard, and accepted the fact that a new era in Lesotho had begun. With the passage of time, Maseru's morning was pierced by traditional shrieks of jubilation and much song and dance that lasted the rest of the day. This was jubilation that heralded a new era in Lesotho of reconciliation and new standing, a Lesotho where all would work for peace and well-being for every Mosotho without discrimination. Yes, a new Lesotho.

Over and above all the reasons outlined by the chairman of the Military Council of Lesotho for its takeover of power, I believe that the military will continue to sort out all the irregularities it has uncovered since 20 January. At the moment, I wish to make this observation about the new Lesotho, a Lesotho of reconciliation, unity, peaceful coexistance, and the well-being and prosperity of the nations. This is a new Lesotho in which the primary objective of the Military Council and the Council of Ministers will be to ensure that there will no longer be any Mosotho who will be obliged to buy his access to what is his by right with a party political document. There will no longer be any Mosotho buying any service with a party political document. There will no longer be any Mosotho child buying favors with a party political document. There will no longer be any person, big or small, who will be discriminated against in apportioning the nation's good heritage or whatever good is brought into the country, when on the other hand he is, during times of hardship, expected to carry the load cheerfully and is not even given the opportunity to express his feelings without fear. There will no longer be any person who will be a captive of fear, a living corpse whose spirit is enslaved by a fear of those in power.

This is a new Lesotho in which each and every person of goodwill — man, woman, boy, or girl — will find himself free to attend meetings where the affairs of the home, village, and district are discussed, and where no one is discriminated against on the basis of his beliefs, where no group thinks itself superior to another, where both chief and subject will be freed from their fears and intimidations of the past, and where all will be regarded as worthy of service to the nation who diligently serve everyone with truth, justice, and dedication. This will be Lesotho where all will pool their resources to promote prosperity for the country and an improved standard of living, especially in rural areas and among the needy. Development should not be concentrated only in urban areas as before. Each and every Mosotho should feel free to contribute to the future prosperity of the country, and work selflessly, in truth, showing compassion and love.

In the new Lesotho, our hope is that all who were shown mercy and forgiveness by the military for allowing the take over of 20 January, and are even now comfortable in their own homes and free to carry on as normal citizens — which is contrary to what happened to others in similar circumstances in times past — will respect this act of compassion and not carry on in any manner that might be construed as a lack of appreciation for this act. All war and strife must come to an end and be in the past so that there is no cause for more widows and orphans. We should all look to the future with courage and forbearance.

In the past we paid lip service to the concept of unity, but today in the new Lesotho, we are compelled to show, particularly in our actions, that this nation is a united and democratic one. Unity must begin in the home, spread to the district level, and be part of the nation as a whole.

God Save Lesotho. Khotso, Pula, Nala. [Peace, Prosperity and Abundance]

MOZAMBIQUE

Cooperation Agreement With EEC Signed

MB090931 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] A few minutes ago in Maputo, Mozambique and the EEC signed documents concerning the first program of bilateral cooperation in the framework of the Third Lome Convention. This program comprises the field of rural development, food security, transport, and education.

Joaquim de Carvalho, Mozambican minister of foreign trade, and (Dieter Vries), EEC directory general for development, signed the accord.

Armed Forces Kill Six Saboteurs in Maputo Province

MB101939 Maputo Domestic Service in Portugese
1900 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Six armed bandits belonging to a group which was infiltrated into our country last January have been killed in Maputo Province by the Mozambique Armed Forces. Included among those killed was the head of the group. The armed bandits, specializing in the sabotage of high tension lines, were surprised by our Armed Forces on 4 February after destroying three pylons 4 km from the border with South Africa. According to a communique from the provincial military command received at our newsdesk this evening, the remaining armed bandits fled to South Africa in the face of fire from our forces. It will be recalled that following the sabotage of the powerline coming from South Africa, austerity measures in the use of power were introduced in the city of Maputo.

NOTICIAS Denounces Explosion on Maputo Beach

MB101846 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Today's edition of *NOTICIAS* newspaper carries an editorial assessing instances of destabilization carried out against our country in the past few days. According to *NOTICIAS*, the explosion of two antipersonnel landmines at the Costa Do Sol beach in Maputo on Thursday is a typical example of the destabilization action that our country has been subject to. According to the newspaper, this action is part of a strategy that has been gaining shape since the independence of our country: the booby-trapped pens, the Scala [Maputo coffee room] bombs, the parcel-bomb that murdered Ruth First, booby-trapped radios, explosive devices in vehicles, and so on. *NOTICIAS* says that these acts of terror are specifically aimed at ordinary citizens, and the paper says that bestiality of these crimes is even more evident when one takes into account that most of the devices and the places where they are installed show they are aimed at children.

According to *NOTICIAS*, the adult and child who were seriously injured on Thursday are part of what the Republic of South Africa and the armed bandits have defined as the enemy: the

Mozambican people. Accordingly, all of us — men, women and children, young and old — have been defined as the enemy. It is therefore imperative that we increase our vigilance and take special care of our children.

Dealing with a number of other actions carried out by the apartheid regime, the daily newspaper adds that the reoccupation of a part of the Angolan territory by South Africa, the threats by Pretoria against Botswana and Zimbabwe, the coup d'etat in Lesotho, and the increase in the supply of weapons and ammunition to the armed bandits in Mozambique are clear signs that the warmongering forces in Pretoria are not only betting on the nonfulfillment of South African promises but also are seeking to provoke an escalation of aggression in the entire region.

Accordingly, *NOTICIAS* concludes, they seek to prevent the continuation of important victorious actions that the Mozambican, Zimbabwean, and Angolan peoples attained last year against destabilization.

NOTICIAS further says that the main axis of this escalation in Maputo Province is the attack against the railroad network and the power lines, and the paper denounced the murder of defenseless people on the outskirts of Maputo together with the explosion of a number of devices aimed at civilians as part of terrorist actions planned by South African authorities.

NOTICIAS further notes that there is a continuing debate about state terrorism in the West. The international news agencies give wide coverage of the punitive measures, including military threats, and the use of economic sanctions against countries accused of involvement in terrorism. Moreover, *NOTICIAS* ends by denouncing the congenital complacency with which these same Western countries deal with South African state terrorism.

SOUTH AFRICA

BBC Reports Mandela To Be Released in Next Swap

MB111445 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1431 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] London, Feb 11, SAPA — Jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela will be released in the next stage of the East-West spy swap and messages have been exchanged between the Israeli prime minister, Mr Shim'on Peres, and the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, BBC television news reported today.

Reporting this morning's exchange of Soviet dissident Dr Anatoly Shcharanskiy for Soviet spies held by the West, the BBC said: "From Israel it is now learned that the next stage in the prisoner exchange will be the release of the South African black leader Nelson Mandela, who has been in prison since 1962.

"It is reported that messages on this issue were exchanged between the Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and the South African Prime Minister [as received] P.W. Botha.

"This follows Mr Botha's surprise announcement nearly two weeks ago that Mandela might be released on certain conditions."

Reporting from Johannesburg, BBC correspondent Michael Buerk said: "It has become clear that President Botha knew about the arrangements for Shcharanskiy's release when he opened Parliament 10 days ago.

"It is thought here that the scheme was originally advanced by American diplomats to pave the way for Mandela to be set free, and that negotiations have subsequently taken place between South Africa and several other governments.

"It is known that ministers here are anxious to release Mr Mandela and are afraid of the consequences should he die in jail. However, the security forces, whose influence on government policy is considerable, are worried about huge demonstrations which might occur should he be set free in South Africa."

Interviewed during the bulletin, the leader of the Social Democrat Party in the House of Commons, Dr David Down, said: "I think it (the prisoner exchange) probably will pave the way for Nelson Mandela to be released, although I only hope it's clear that Nelson Mandela should be released into South Africa and not released from prison only to be exiled to one of the Frontline African states."

Dr Owen said that if Mandela was released into South Africa the implications would be dramatic.

"He will become immediately, in my view, the authoritative voice of the black people. He will provide what is at the moment a rather disparate black movement with a single unified black leader and therefore somebody who, if the South African Government would want to, and I have serious doubts that they do, enter into serious negotiation with.

"If they banish him and he flies to somewhere like Lusaka, then I must say I believe the release will be purely and simply a gesture and will not bring about any immediate changes. Though even so, Nelson Mandela out of prison and in the Frontline States will be the focus of a united African movement."

The opposition Labour Party's shadow foreign secretary, Mr Dennis Healey, said he thought there was a link between the prisoner exchanges and the release of Mr Mandela.

"I think Botha does want to release Mandela. The trouble is I don't think Mandela would agree to be released unless he is in a position to start negotiating on behalf of the blacks of South Africa as leader of the African National Congress. Whether Mr Botha can go that far we shall have to see."

Justice Minister Says Mandela Cannot Be Released

MB111831 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Feb 86

[From the "Network" program]

[Text] There have been numerous reports overseas that jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela will be involved in the next stage of today's East-West prisoner swap. The South African Government's reaction to the reports is that the state president's statement on Mandela at the opening of Parliament remains unchanged.

And in a statement tonight Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee elaborated somewhat. Mr Coetsee said Mr Shcharanskiy's release in Berlin today did not comply with the conditions set out by the state president in his speech at the opening of parliament. For this reason, Mandela could not be released.

Pik Botha Leaves Country for Talks on Reform

MB111814 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1700 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The office of the minister of foreign affairs has confirmed after inquiries that Mr Pik Botha has left the country for overseas. The purpose of his trip is to inform interested parties on the government's reform plans and also to discuss matters relating to the situation in southern Africa.

Mr Botha's visit overseas is not connected with the release of the Soviet dissident, Dr Anatoliy Shcharanskiy.

Connected With Debt 'Standstill'

MB121014 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1012 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 12, SAPA — The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, is on a week-long trip to Europe to "explain the government's reform policy."

It is understood that Mr Botha will spend most of his time in Switzerland and the trip is connected with South Africa's "standstill" on debt repayments.

In a brief statement confirming the visit, Mr Botha's office added today that the trip had nothing to do with the release of Soviet dissident Dr Anatoliy Shcharanskiy.

Sources in Cape Town indicated today that the trip was connected with the February 20 meeting with bankers.

President Says 'Door Open' to Buthelezi

MB111625 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, says his door is open to Chief Mangosotho Buthelezi of Kwazulu if he wishes to clarify issues surrounding Mr Botha's statements.

Reacting to certain reservations expressed by Chief Buthelezi about his participation in the proposed National Statutory Council, President Botha stressed he would continue with negotiations about the implementation of such a body under his chairmanship. The statutory council would consist of representatives from the South African Government, from the governments of self-governing national states, as well as leaders of other black communities and interest groups.

He said such a council would provide the forum for the discussion and clarification of different viewpoints. Mr Botha pointed out to Chief Buthelezi that he also had an electorate which he had to take into consideration.

The state president said he had already done much to lead his electorate on a path of cooperation with black nations in southern Africa. He expressed the hope that more appreciation would be shown for this than was being done at present.

Further on Reply to Buthelezi

MB111658 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1653 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, February 11, SAPA — The state president Mr P.W. Botha today said he had done much to lead his constituency on the road to cooperation with blacks, and he hoped for "a little more appreciation for this attempt than that which I often experience."

Reacting to reports of a speech delivered by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi at Vryheid yesterday, Mr Botha said in a statement that he did not know if the KwaZulu chief minister had been quoted correctly by the media.

"If it is correct, my comment is as follows:

"Chief Minister Buthelezi knows from experience that my door is at all times open to him to discuss matters on which he wants clarification or to express an opinion. It is not necessary for us to seek a public platform every time we wish to talk to each other.

"He also had an opportunity to discuss matters with me when I met other leaders of self-governing states in Pretoria at the end of last year.

"Chief Minister Buthelezi always rightly says that he has a constituency to consult. I respect this, but I too have a constituency. I have done much to lead my constituency on the road to cooperation with black peoples in southern Africa. I hope there is a little more appreciation for this attempt than that which I often experience."

Mr Botha said he was going ahead, in accordance with his statement at the opening of Parliament, with the negotiation of the institution of a statutory council under his chairmanship, by means of which leaders in South Africa could discuss matters and attempt to find solutions. He had proposed that the council should consist of representatives of the South African Government, the governments of the "self-governing national states" and leaders of other black communities and interest groups.

"In such a council we shall have the opportunity to mutually provide explanations of our respective views to one another. My offer that the President's Council could hold discussions with leaders of other communities on the restructuring and future task of the President's Council itself, still stands."

Buthelezi Comments Further on NSC Proposal

MB111631 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1605 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Issued by: Chief Minister's Office, Ulundi]

[Text] Ulundi, Tuesday — Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said here today that he would stay in opposition politics, working for a race-free future, as long as the Group Areas and Population Registration Acts remained in force.

He told a visiting group of Brazilian parliamentarians that the Population Registration Act was responsible for dividing the country into ethnic groups and continued to be the foundation for a racial constitution. And the Group Areas Act was on the statute books to distribute whites and blacks unfairly in and around the country's urban industrial growth points.

If the state president hoped that the National Statutory Council would be a mechanism for co-opting blacks "prepared to carry his political bags for him," he would find it impossible to work on it, the KwaZulu chief minister and Inkatha president said.

The South African Government had been teetering on the brink of making major changes for some time. Whether the state president would make the necessary moves during this year's session remained, of course, the crucial question. It would be wrong to leap to conclusions on the basis of his opening address to parliament, but it would also be wrong to leap to the opposite conclusion.

He had encouraged Mr P.W. Botha to continue with what he had said he was going to do, but until the structure and the functioning of the National Statutory Council became clear, he could neither accept nor reject it.

If the council was indeed a statutory body which conducted its business as a democratic institution and was given bite, either because it had a direct or indirect veto power over legislation to be passed or if it had the power to make regulations or to draw up bills, "then we will be witness to effective black participation."

If, however, it were to be a talking shop — and particularly if it were a talking shop behind closed doors — blacks who were constituency leaders with any kind of following would not find it possible to participate in it.

Comments on Slabbert Resignation

MB111141 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1138 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Ulundi, Feb 11, SAPA — It had taken 10 years for Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert to assess that the present parliament was "ineffective," but the former Progressive Federal Party leader "must be respected for finally coming to that conclusion," Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said today.

The KwaZulu chief minister and president of Inkatha issued a statement today in response to recent requests for reaction to issues raised by Dr Slabbert's resignation.

"It has taken Dr Van Zyl Slabbert 10 years to assess that the present parliament is ineffective, but he must be respected for finally coming to that conclusion," the chief said.

"This is something I said at the launching of the Convention Alliance in September last year. I said that the external mission of ANC has as much right to be at the conference table as Dr Treurnicht's Conservative Party. That has been repeated by me in many speeches, and I therefore have nothing new to say on the matter," he added.

"The trouble is that, from November last year, I have heard from Dr Slabbert's own lips that he had plans to resign. So the question of evaluation (of the effect of his action) falls away, as I had that information that he was to resign as long ago as that, long before the president gave his opening of parliament address.

"I decide things on the basis of what my constituents feel about any issue and, while I respect Dr Slabbert's stand, I will not be influenced by it but by what my people want me to do.

"When Dr Slabbert participated in the tricameral parliament, I did not criticise him as some people did. Has his participation in the tricameral parliameent, in which 72 per cent of the population are excluded, brought to question his own credibility?

"In any case, I do not see why I should be expected to react to what is a purely hypothetical question, as I have not decided to participate in the National Statutory Council and have not said I would, unless certain ingredients were added to it and if this was the wish of my constituencies.

"I doubt if the state president will add the ingredients which I think his National Statutory Council needs, and whether he gives it a defined agenda is another question.

"These issues are not pressing issues for me at all.

"I also stated that all parties, including Mr Nelson Mandela and other imprisoned leaders, must be at large and free to decide whether they want to participate or not.

"These issues seem far from being resolved by the state president in the immediate future."

Accuses COSATU of 'Poaching'

MB100737 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1415 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Ulundi, Feb 9, SAPA — The Confederation of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) was accused of "political poaching" today by the president of Inkatha and chief minister of KwaZulu, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

In a statement from Ulundi, Chief Buthelezi said that Inkatha took "strong exception to Inkatha members in the trade unions being carried on Mr Elijah Bayari's back for handing over to SACTU (The South African Council of Trade Unions) and automatically to the external mission of the ANC.

"This is undemocratic, as our members have come to us to complain about this. It is political poaching," he said.

He said that what Mr Bayari declared as the policy of COSATU "is the policy of the external mission of ANC."

On the subject of advocating disinvestment, Chief Buthelezi said Inkatha found it "callous and insensitive for people who are working in factories to advocate a policy which will result in our people suffering more joblessness than they are already suffering from because of the downturn in the economy."

Chief Buthelezi said he was "unaware of any violence against members of COSATU and we take strong exception to the suggestion by COSATU that we are in any way involved in any violence against COSATU members."

He said Cosatu's leadership must be "very careful" in trying to attribute whatever violence their members have suffered to Inkatha.

"We agree with COSATU that the South African Government has "had a hand in the mismanagement of the economy in South Africa, a fact I have repeated as president of Inkatha in a number of public speeches," Chief Buthelezi said.

Inkatha: COSATU Trying To 'Hijack' Union Movement

MB100742 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0714 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Ulundi, Feb 10, SAPA — Inkatha today accused the COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] president, Mr Elijah Bayari, and the general-secretary, Mr Jay Naidoo, of trying to hijack the trade union movement and challenged them to debates on this and other issues at all factories and mines.

The challenge and accusation came in a statement by Mr Simon Conco, member of the Inkatha central committee charged with labour relations and member of the KwaZulu legislative assembly for Enseleni.

Mr Conco said Inkatha repudiated the attempts by Mr Bayair and Mr Naidoo, as reported in a Durban newspaper on Friday, to blame it for divisions in the worker movements.

It was these officials of the Congress of South African Trade Unions who, by their misrepresentations of Inkatha policies, were the cause of persent troubles in the union movement, he said.

Inkatha had never attempted to start separate unions linked to "divisive homeland structures," as alleged by these officials. It had always opposed the government's homeland policies and had refused to accept independence for KwaZulu.

It was therefore a complete misrepresentation for these officials to imply that Inkatha supported the homelands solutions of the government.

Inkatha did not see itself as being in a "state of war" with COSATU, as alleged by the officials. It had no quarrel with COSATU members, thousands of whom were members or supporters of Inkatha.

Inkatha's differences lay with "only a small coterie," comprising certain COSATU officials — led by Mr Bayari and Mr Naidoo — who were trying "to hijack COSATU to their own narrow outlook which has no support from the workers."

These officials had received no mandate to support disinvestment or to attack Inkatha and its president, Chief M.G. Buthelezi, or to oppose the free enterprise system, Mr Conco said. It was false for them to state that their attitudes were based on the views of members of the COSATU unions.

Malan: RSA Considering Aiding Neighboring Rebels

MB111924 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] South African Defense Minister Magnus Malan says Pretoria will consider aiding organizations fighting the rulers of neighboring states. In reply to a question in Parliament, the minister has said the government will consider such action if it will help stop terrorist attacks being launched from other countries. General Malan says aid to organizations in other countries will only be considered within the framework of South Africa's right to self-defense.

Viljoen Speaks on Black Education Policy

MB100843 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1855 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 10, SAPA — It was the declared policy of the government "to accelerate the upward mobility" of blacks in education, the minister of education and development aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said today (Monday).

Dr Viljoen said in a statement released in Pretoria this policy included creating opportunities for training and career prospects "and to involve black educationists in a broad spectrum of structures concerned with policy matters and decision-making."

"No restriction has been placed on the promotion of black educationists and administrative staff in [words indistinct] of the Department of Education and Training," he said.

An important new development was the appointment in November last year of seven black educationists as deputy-directors of education in the seven regional offices of the department.

They are Mr R. Motau (Highveld), Dr S.K. Matseke (Johannesburg), Mr K.B. Tabata (Cape), Dr E.P. Ndaba (Natal), Mr S.S. Maboa (Northern Transvaal), Mr R.L. Ngcobo (Orange-Vaal), and Mr B.M. Khabele (Free State).

"It is well known that the Council for Education and Training regularly advises the ministry and the department. By virtue of direct access at policy and decision-making level it makes an invaluable contribution to the formulation and execution of policy.

"The council consists of 25 members and, through a system of regional committees, represents communities in all parts of the country," he said.

Regular discussions and consultations were likewise held with representatives of the African Teachers Association of SA (ATASA).

Dr Viljoen said that at operational level, three black senior staff members served on each of the two departmental selection committees for the selection of all appointees in promotion posts.

"More than 53 per cent of the members of subject committees are blacks. Subject committees are responsible for the interpretation of core syllabi, the compilation of syllabi for teacher training and the selection of prescribed and text books and many other duties.

"Fourteen black educationists are at present members of the examination council.

"Two comprehensive orientation and training courses involved a total of 67 black participatns. These candidates were identified for appointment as educational planners in this department and in the independent states. Another four courses will be presented this year," he said.

Other developments of importance were that black training officers were being trained for appointment in head office and the regional offices.

A black public relations officer was being appointed in each regional office with the rank of deputy chief educationist.

Dr Viljoen said six black assistant directors of education were in charge of circuits while 207 black inspectors of education had been appointed in the various regions.

"To create a more efficient mechanism for consultation about policy decisions and advice within the Department of Education and Training, a committee for education policy is being composed with direct representation from, and access by, the council of education and training.

"The committee for education policy will be advised and supported by a system of advisory committees and work committees with respect to the following areas of concern:

— education services;

— the qualifications and training of teachers;

— the evaluation of qualifications;

— differentiation, curricula and guidance.

"The organised teaching profession will, through the offices of the African Teachers Association (ATASA), be invited to nominate experts on to these advisory committees," Dr Viljoen said.

Text of Tutu Letter to Johannesburg Diocese

MB100817 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1810 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 9, SAPA — The following is the full text of a pastoral letter from the bishop of Johannesburg, the Right Reverend Desmond Tutu, read in all Anglican churches in the Johannesburg diocese today:

My dear people,

I greet you in the name of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. May peace and grace from God Our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ fill you now and always. Thanks be to God for His Holy Spirit who binds us together in one fellowship, to be members of one family as the children of God.

In a family we are eager to think only the best about one another and do not easily call in question one another's motives. When we hear something that seems untoward about one of us we suspend judgement and are ready to give that one the benefit of the doubt until we have a fuller picture of the situation after giving the one accused a chance to state his side of the story.

The devil is like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour, so the scriptures admonish us and he is only too ready to tear us apart, for he cannot stand unity and fellowship and truth because he is the father of lies and the author of sin which is fundamentally something that divides, that separates, that causes disunity. Very sadly many in our family accepted at face value what the media especially the SABC TV and radio portrayed as what I said. This biased and distorted reporting is the hallmark especially of SABC (note the notoriously onesided propaganda of news commentary) but also of most of the newspapers. It was easy for many, especially for the white community to do so, because it seemed to confirm their stereotypes of the bishop of this diocese. I hope they will have read the fair reports of what I said at a press conference (especially in *BUSINESS DAY, THE STAR* and *THE SOWETAN*).

I love South Africa and all her people with a deep and passionate love. I care enormously about black and white in our beloved land. I believe fervently that the church can demonstrate that it is possible for people of different backgrounds, cultures and races to live together in one community for Christ has broken down the middle wall of partition for He is our peace and has made of us all one people where there is neither Jew nor Greek, male nor female, slave nor free.

I believe that we have been given the ministry of reconciliation, but, this can never be cheap reconciliation that cries "peace, peace where there is no peace." There can be no peace unless there is justice first. God has called me to speak out against injustice, oppression and evil where they are to be found and to work for justice, righteousness, peace, compassion, caring, laughter, joy and sharing. I will never make peace with apartheid which is totally evil, unchristian and immoral, which causes untold and unnecessary suffering to God's children just because they are black for, in serving these poor, oppressed, despised ones we are serving those whom Christ has called the least of his brethren — in serving these we are serving Christ himself.

But when we serve Christ, when we witness for the gospel of the Kingdom of God, almost inevitably we will walk the path of suffering, rejection, misunderstanding, vilification and denigration. It was the lot of the prophets of God and the Christ of God and ultimately it led to calvary. Our Lord makes it quite clear unless we are prepared to take up our cross and follow Him, we cannot be his disciples, thus we must not be surprised if the world should reject us. Jesus Our Lord and Master warned us that the servant could not be greater than his master. If the world rejected Him it would be very odd indeed if it welcomed those who were his and who tried to be faithful to Him.

I have always said I reject all violence as evil — the violence of a repressive system such as the iniquitous apartheid system and that of those who want to overthrow it. The church in its wisdom has taught the doctrine of the just war which helps Christians to know when it may be justifiable for them to use an evil thing such as war to end a greater evil such as Nazism. Both are evil but the one is considered a lesser evil. And so I was saving only what is traditional indeed conservative Christian teaching from the time of St Augustine and Hippo that a moment may come when it would be justifiable to use violence to overthrow apartheid. I am not a pacifist but a man of peace and I have worked and shall continue to work for a reasonably peaceful solution to the crisis in our land. Our black political organisations, the ANC and the PACK used non-violent strategies until they were banned in 1960 after the police massacred 69 blacks who were protesting peacefully against the pass laws and most of these were shot in the back running away. The primary, the fundamental violence and terrorism in South Africa come from apartheid and its supporters — the violence of forced population removals, the violence of the migratory labour system, of detention without trial, of arbitrary banning, of causing children to starve in a land of plenty, of stunting the emotional and intellectual growth of children through inferior discriminatory education. We could multiply examples. These should suffice.

I have said before (once, even in the Supreme Court) that I certainly support the ANC and its objective to establish a non-racial, just and democratic South Africa, but I reject its methods. In Atlanta, my remarks were directed especially at the Reagan administration for Vice-President Bush was sitting just behind me as I spoke. I could not understand the logic in their support of the Contra rebels in Nicaragua and the UNITA rebels in Angola which were intent on overthrowing legitimate governments. If these governments had not been Marxist, would it be right to want to overthrow them? Why should it be right when they were duly elected but happened to be Marxist?

Why did the Americans not support our liberation movements which were pitted against a government which did not pretend to be remotely democratic since its newest constitution excluded 73 per cent of the population of the land? Why had it been in order for Afrikaners to fight for their freedom and be wrong for blacks, who believed they had tried all other peaceful options? I still hope that we have an outside chance to bring about fundamental changes i.e. political powersharing with the minimum of violence but the ball is firmly in the government's court.

Soft Targets

We have been told that the government has not yet unleashed the full extent of its military might. All I was doing talking about school buses and morning coffee was to show possible horror of a fullscale civil war. You won't necessarily need conventional weapons. I was issuing a warning. I don't want to see any of this happen. Mr Vorster spoke of an alternative too ghastly to contemplate — I was just spelling out what this alternative could entail and hoping that my fellow South Africans would do all in their power to avert such a catastrophe.

Whites Disinvesting From the Church

Surely you will recall how certain newspapers reported with considerable glee that many white Anglicans were leaving our church because I had been elected bishop and that some of those remaining intended disinvesting from the church in protest against my calls for economic pressure. I told our friends overseas that there were those who intended to scupper my ministry here through this economic sabotage. I am very thankful for the faithful and generous giving that comes from any of you. I have written recently in appreciation of this in *THE WATCHMAN*. For various reasons we are faced with a hefty deficit and if we do not clear it, there is no way in which we could afford to increase clergy stipends. It would be scandalous not to do so in the face of galloping inflation.

And so I have appealed to our sisters and brothers overseas and their response has been staggering. If my appeal had failed, my detractors would have had another field day gloating over my failure. We belong in the body of the church and this has been proved by the very generous response of our overseas friends — when one part suffers then the whole suffers with it and when one part prospers... We should be celebrating the generosity of our friends but as I said before, when people like you, you can't do anything wrong, when they don't like you, and can do nothing right. [sentence as received]

I will continue the ministry which I believe God has given me. I hope that you will join me in this ministry of witness and reconciliation. We must show that we are God's family and that we will hold on to one another through thick and thin.

It is just remarkable, the reaction of the black community and the international community and their attitude to me, and to contrast these with those of most in the white community. The latter are ready at the drop of a hat to believe the worst about me and to regard me as being the devil incarnate. I hope for God's grace and blessing on us all that we will demonstrate our unity in Christ.

"I give you a new commandment — love one another. As I have loved you, so are you to love one another. If there is this love among you, then all will know that you are my disciples."

God bless you richly

Yours affectionately

Desmond Tutu, bishop of Johannesburg.

UDF Secretary Reacts to Slabbert Resignation

MB111935 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1746 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] King Williams Town, Feb 11, SAPA — All people as disillusioned as former PFP [Progressive Federal Party] leader Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert and all those who want change in South Africa should reject the minority government of the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, the United Democratic Front said today.

Reacting to Dr Slabbert's resignation from Parliament and as leader of the Progressive Federal Party, the UDF's border region secretary, the Rev Arnold Stofile, said all freedom-loving people should renounce any allegiance to Mr Botha's undemocratic structures community councils.

"For over two decades now our people have been saying what Dr Slabbert has just discovered.

"Change in this country cannot come through parliamentary debate and in Dr Slabbert's words, it's a waste of time," Rev Stofile said.

In a way Dr Slabbert's resignation was "a clear vindication of our people's position of extra-parliament struggle and the timing of resignation is also significant.

"It comes as perfect proof for all the world to see Botha's Rubicon two for the farce it is.

"Reform will only be seen as a sugar-coating of apartheid, not eradication.

"We will strive to work for a democratic and non-racial South Africa where indeed, as Pik Botha seems to have realised, a black president is a possibility or certainty."

Comment on Parliament Reform Role

MB120511 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Station commentary: "Parliament: Instrument for Reform]

[Text] Announcing his resignation last Friday the leader of the opposition, Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, charged that the tricameral Parliament was a hopeless, flawed and failed constitutional experiment. The tricameral system was not the beginning of a solution to the problem of political domination but rather aggravated the problem and the state president's opening address to Parliament and comment on it had finally persuaded him that he should resign. After 12 years of working for reform in Parliament he would henceforth do so outside that institution. He also questioned whether the government really wished to make Parliament relevant to the crisis in the country.

Whether or not it was the intention, the step taken by Dr Slabbert creates the impression of a motion of no-confidence in Parliament as an irrelevant institution for bringing about changes in this country. The implication then would be that hopes for real reform must lie elsewhere: in extraparliamentary activity. It was not surprising therefore that Dr Slabbert's action was at once welcomed by the ANC, the most radical of the bodies attempting to bring about change by extraparliamentary, undemocratic means. The ANC makes no secret of the fact that it is systematically undermining evolutionary reform through polarization and intimidation of communities, while representing the action taken by Parliament as mere sham. Parliament is irrelevant. The ANC itself and its extraparliamentary collaborators in South Africa are the real agents for change. This propaganda has now received an unexpected boost from the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] leader.

Change, if it is to be reasonably orderly, peaceful and democratic in both means and ends, must of necessity be conducted through Parliament. Admittedly it is a drawn out process: frustrating to those who are all too acutely aware of the political, social, and economic adaptations that must be made, and of the urgency of the task. But it cannot be done overnight. A long established system that needs to be fundamentally reformed cannot suddenly be overthrown without chaotic consequences in all spheres of national life.

Nor is it as if Dr Slabbert is walking out on a body that has set itself blindly against reform. On the contrary, he has left a Parliament that is irrevocably committed to change. There are obviously differences of opinion about what it should entail and how fast it should proceed, but even critics are on the whole prepared to concede that South Africa today is a very different place from what it was just 5 years ago. Like all manmade institutions the tricameral Parliament is an imperfect creation — but it cannot be disputed that it represents a broadening of democracy in this country. Two communities that were formerly excluded have become participants in government and lawmaking.

Extending the process to the black people is the next step. That was stated from the beginning, and in the past 10 days the state president has reaffirmed his commitment to it. The goal is a continual widening of democracy, with recognition of group identity and the demand for group rights as a reality of the South African situation. How that is to be done, can only be resolved and implemented by Parliament.

Qwa Qwa Chief Minister Welcomes Botha's Remarks

MB100721 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] The chief minister of Qwa Qwa, Dr Kenneth Mopeli, says his government does not support the idea of disinvestment because it will cause poverty and will not provide work for the unemployed. Addressing a large meeting in Bochabelo, Dr Mopeli said his government supported the policy of decentralization, although he was concerned at the wages and salaries now being paid to industrial workers in Bochabelo and Qwa Qwa. He said his government and the decentralization board would soon be holding talks about the matter.

Dr Mopeli said he welcomed the changes announced by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, at the opening of Parliament. He wondered if the time had not come to establish a united organisation in which all people could participate and decision be taken. This, he said, would replace the present system under which various population groups were approached for advice.

PFP Parliamentary Caucus Meets in Cape Town

MB102005 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1550 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 10, SAPA — The Progressive Federal Party's parliamentary caucus and federal executive met in Cape Town today to discuss the crisis in the party and to plan parliamentary strategy.

Mr Colin Eglin, MP, interim leader of the party and chairman of the caucus, and Dr Alex Boraine, MP, chairman of the executive, confirmed the meetings.

Party leader Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert today formally resigned as MP for Claremont after announcing his intention to do so in Parliament on Friday.

He said today that no attempts had been made to try to get him to change his mind because his colleagues knew that any decision he took would be final.

Referring to the recrimination over his decision, Dr Slabbert said these were understandable and inevitable when a leader resigned for reasons other than old age or infirmity and when there was no clear reason for the resignation in the minds of those who wanted him to stay.

"One could either have had a long, drawn-out crisis and a lot of public agonising and soul-searching or one could have it over as quickly as possible."

Dr Slabbert said he retained his interest in negotiation politics in South Africa but he had no firm plans for the future.

He said today that he would soon be going to London for the launching in Britain of his autobiography and he would then have a rest before deciding what he would do.

Steps Taken Towards Single Metal Workers Union

MB110917 Umtata Captial Radio in English
0500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Steps have been taken towards the formation of a single South African metal workers union. Discussions have been held between the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union, the Motor and Allied Workers Union, and the Motor Industry Combined Workers Union. The aim of the meeting is reported to have been to merge and create a single union. According to the South African Council of the International Metal Workers Federation, the unions do not seem to have major ideological differences and the propsoed merger could establish an organization with a potential membership of more than 100,000.

Anti-Apartheid Groups Announce Prayer Day

MB111853 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1740 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 11, SAPA — Anti-apartheid organisations today asked all churches in South Africa to observe Sunday as a National Day of Prayer.

The United Democratic Front, The Transvaal Indian Congress and the Detainees Parents Support Committee [DPSC] have chosen Tolstoy farm outside Lenasia as their venue for an open-air service. This is where Mahatma Gandhi fasted to demonstrate his opposition to the racial laws of this country, Dr Essop Jassat of the Transvaal Indian Congress told a news conference to announce the prayer day.

He said on Sunday South Africans would be expressing their solidarity with detainees, some of whom had been held for nearly a year. Dr Max Colman of the DPSC told the conference that several of the detainees were also given different diets according to their race groups, he claimed.

On Sunday worshippers will be expected to demand:

— The immediate and unconditional release of all detainees.

— The lifting of the state of emergency.

— The withdrawal of members of the SADF from black townships.

Further Reportage on Nationwide Unrest Incidents

Blacks Fire on Bus; 2 Injured

MB111227 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1225 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, Feb 11, SAPA — Two men were seriously injured today when a group of black men stopped a bus at Hammarsdale and shot two black passengers with a shotgun.

Police said today that a group of about 15 men stopped the bus near a store at 5.30am and told the two men to alight. When they refused the group entered the bus and a fight broke out inside.

The two men who had been ordered off the bus were seriously injured and taken to Edendale Hospital. The bus was badly damaged by gunfire.

Black Man Killed After Looting

MB111409 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1343 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Welkom, Feb 11, SAPA — A black man was shot dead and three other people were arrested after a business complex was allegedly looted after three quakes shook Welkom last night, police said today.

The first of the three earth shocks hit at about 10.46pm, plunging some shaft lights at the President Brand Gold Mine near here into darkness. Shortly thereafter, a group of between 40 and 50 people stormed a nearby business complex and allegediy began looting, Capt Johan Fouche, police liaison officer for the northern [Orange] Free State, said.

The police were called and stones were thrown. Additional police had to be called in and the looters were dispersed with shotgun fire. A man died and three were arrested. Damage to the complex was estimated at R30000.

At the St Helena Gold Mine, the 18th level of the Number 2 shaft collapsed, apparently as a result of the earth movements. Rescue teams were rushed in as workers were underground at the time, but no one was reported seriously hurt and workers were evacuated through an alternative shaft.

The tremors struck at 1046pm, 11.06pm, and at 2.30 am. Although relatively little damage was done — windows broke, walls shook and garages were damaged — the quakes sent many people fleeing into the streets in panic.

Welkom was the scene of a severe quake in 1976 when a block of flats collapsed.

14 Detained for Car Bomb Blast

MB110839 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0800 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Fourteen people have been detained in connection with a car bomb blast in Transkei. A person was killed after a bomb exploded in the car in Engcobo, near Umtata last week. Transkei security police have confirmed the detentions, saying most of the detainees are from the Lady Frere District. The names of the 14 have not yet been released.

2nd Blast Rocks Durban Substation

MB120926 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0925 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, Feb 12, SAPA — A second explosion rocked an electricity sub-station in Durban's Springfield area today while police were investigating an earlier blast that damaged a transformer five hours earlier.

No one was injured in either explosion.

Electricity to large parts of Springfield was cut after the first blast, which occurred about 5.45am.

According to Captain Winston Heunis, head of the South African police public relations division for Port Natal, the area had been cordoned off and police were busy investigating when the second explosion occurred at about 10.30am.

Several windows of a council home next to the sub-station were shattered by the first blast, believed to have been caused by a limpet mine.

Mr Gangatharan Munsamy, whose house adjoins the sub-station, said he was asleep when he was awoken by the explosion.

"There was a big bang and the whole house shook. I ran out of the house and saw the transformer on fire. We immediately called the fire department."

Mamelodi Youths Go on 'Rampage'

MB121011 Johannebsurg SAPA in English
1010 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 12, SAPA — Students from secondary schools in Mamelodi went on the rampage yesterday disrupting classes, setting alight three vehicles and stoning several others.

A witness said about 50 students who had boycotted classes started stoning passing cars in the vicinity of Mamelodi High School during the morning.

Two post office vans and a Mamelodi town council pick-up truck were stoned and then set alight, he said. The occupants had to get out of the vehicles quickly to escape injury. Classes were also disrupted.

Several other cars passing through the area were stoned and windscreens damaged, but the drivers managed to avoid being forced to a halt, the witness said.

The violence was apparently sparked by news of the death of a Mamelodi High School student, Kleinboor Mahlangu, who was shot dead when police opened fire on alleged stone throwers.

Several secondary and high schools reported low attendances today.

Meanwhile in Ga-Rankuwa near here, a large number of pupils boycotted classes for the third consecutive day today.

Classes at several high schools were disrupted on Monday after Bophuthatswana police arrested youths in the township at the weekend.

'Scores' Arrested in Winterveld

MB121141 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1135 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 12, SAPA — Scores of Winterveld youths and men who were picked up by the Bophuthatswana police from their homes a few hours before the funeral of a youth last Thursday alleged they were stripped naked and assaulted before being released without being charged.

Sources in Winterveld, a slum area near Mabopane township about 35 km north of Pretoria, said there was a heavy police presence before, during and after the funeral of Joseph Modipane who was allegedly shot dead by police.

The youths, mostly secondary school pupils, were allegedly collected in a police swoop at about 7am and were detained at the

Ga-Rankuwa police station. They were released on Sunday afternoon.

A liaison officer for the Bophuthatswana police, Colonel David George, said he could neither confirm nor deny the allegations. He said a young man was fatally wounded after the funeral of Mr Modipane last week. He said according to the reports from the security forces, the youths had allegedly stoned police vehicles.

The youths said they were taken from their homes whilst preparing for school. They alleged they were assaulted before they were taken to the police station.

Detainees Stage Hunger Strike

MB111840 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1616 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 11, SAPA — Detainees at the Diepkloof prison outside Soweto went on a hunger strike this morning to protest against their "continued detention, the prolonging of the state of emergency, and conditions of their imprisonment," the Detainees Parents Support Committee [DPSC] reported today.

Responding to enquiries from SAPA, a prisons spokesman confirmed that "approximately 35 detainees at the Johannesburg prison held in terms of the emergency regulations have not taken their meals today."

The spokesman would not comment any further.

Mr David Webster, a member of the DPSC, said earlier that the strike followed the submission of two memoranda by the detainees to the minsier of law and order and the minister of justice at the beginning of this month in which they complained of "severe deprivation and maltreatment."

"The majority of the detainees are young people, some of them children aged about seven or eight years," Mr Webster said. "Numerous allegations of torture and assault have been made against authorities in prisons where the detainees are held resulting in at least 17 legal actions involving over 100 detainees being taken," he claimed.

Makhanya-Embo Meeting Sought

MB111131 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1116 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, February 11, SAPA — Police are trying to set up a meeting between the rival Makanya and Embo tribes today in an effort to bring peace to the troubled Umbumbulu district where the death roll from Sunday's faction fighting has risen to 10.

The body of an unidentified middleaged man, who had been shot and hacked with a panga, was found yesterday.

Three black policemen died during the disturbances.

The officer commanding the reaction unit, Lieutenant-Colonel Wynand van der Merwe, said yesterday he would try to set up a meeting with the chief of the Makanya tribe today. He would also speak to the chief of the Embo tribe and try to get the two groups together for talks.

Police Issue Early 11 Feb Unrest Report

MB111735 Johannesburg SAPA in English GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 11, SAPA — Following is the SAP report on unrest up to 7pm today issued by the Police Public Relations Division.

"The following incidents of unrest were reported today:

"At Mohlakeng, near Randfontein, police dispersed a number of illegal gatherings with tearsmoke.

"In the same area, mobs barricading roads were dispersed. There were no injuries or arrests.

"In Guguletu, near Cape Town, a white man and a black woman were slightly injured by stonethrowers.

"In the black residential area near Standerton, three delivery vehicles were set on fire and extensively damaged.

"In Soweto (Witwatersrand), a delivery vehicle was looted, two schools were set on fire and extensively damaged and a private vehicle was damaged by stonethrowers.

"At Claremont, near Durban, a delivery vehicle was petrol-bombed and extensively damaged. Police dispersed the mob with tearsmoke and shotgun fire and arrested two men.

"In the black residential area near Ermelo, roads were barricaded and police vehicles stoned on a number of occasions. Police dispersed these mobs with tearsmoke and birdshot and arrested eight men.

"In the same area, a Development Board official's home and vehicle were destroyed by arsonists. The official dispersed his attackers with shotgun fire, fatally wounding a man, wounding another and arresting a third.

"At Kabokweni, near White River, a school and a delivery vehicle were extensively damaged by arsonists.

"In the black residential area near Bethal, a private vehicle was extensively damaged when it was petrol-bombed.

"At Mamelodi, near Pretoria, a Post Office vehicle, two Administration Board vehicles and a delivery vehicle were set on fire and extensively [words indistinct].

[Words indistinct] A municipal policeman was seriously injured when he was attacked with knives and stones.

"At Phomolong, near Kroonstad, the Development Board offices and the mayor's home were stoned. Development Board guards dispersed the mobs with birdshot, slightly wounding four men and two women.

"In the same area, a large group returning from a funeral was fired on by Development Board officials. Four youths, two girls and two boys, were injured. The South African police are investigating the reason for this action."

Late 11 Feb

MB120643 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0642 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 12, SAPA — Following is the overnight unrest situation report issued to SAPA by the police public relations division in Pta [Pretoria].

The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight.

At the black residential area Sandbult near Burgersdorp, the SAP dispersed a mob with tearsmoke and shotgun fire when their vehicle was stoned. One man and two male youths were arrested.

At KwaNobuhle near Uitenhage, arsonists demolished a private vehicle.

At the coloured residential area Bridgeton near Oudtshoorn, a bus was demolished when it was set on fire. No injuries were reported when the SAP used tearsmoke and shotgun fire to disperse the mob when their vehicle was stoned.

At Guguletu in the Western Province, two vehicles were extensively damaged by arsonists. The SAP dispersed a mob with tearsmoke when their vehicle was stoned.

On the outskirts of Westonaria in the West Rand, SAP vehicles and traffic patrol vehicles were stoned. When a policeman tried to arrest a black man he was injured when the man stabbed him with a broken bottle. The policeman defended hismelf by using his shotgun, fatally wounding his attacker.

At Sebokeng near Vereeniging, the Modula Qhoa school was extensively damaged by arsonists.

At the black residential area of Mqwali Bolo in the border area, a shop was extensively damaged by arsonists.

At Soshanguve near Pretoria, two vehicles were damaged by a mob and a policeman's home was petrol bombed.

Le Grange Says 7,777 Detained Since July 1985

MB111850 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1719 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] House of Assembly, February 11, SAPA — A total of 7,777 people were detained under the emergency regulations from the time of the declaration of the state of emergency in July 1985 to February 4 this year, the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange said today in reply to a question from Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Houghton).

Asked whether any of these people had been charged, he said these particulars were not readily available. The application of the emergency regulations was "primarily of a preventive nature."

In reply to another question from Mrs Suzman, Mr Le Grange said that 2,016 people detained under the emergency regulations were under 16-years-old at the time they were held.

This figure covered the period July 7 last year to January 31 this year.

TRIBUNE Says 'Any Pretense of Reform' Gone

MB090503 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2329 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, Feb 8, SAPA — "Any pretence at reform" by the government had been reduced to "a grotesque farce" since the state president's speech to Parliament promising reform a week ago, *THE TRIBUNE* says in its editorial tomorrow.

"Just a week ago President Botha seemed set fair to retrieve the remnants of his tatty reform policy. He opened Parliament with a speech which, to a nation yearning for recovery from economic depression, international isolation and bloody rioting, held some promise of a new beginning.

"We, along with others, were prepared, even though with serious reservations, to accept him at what appeared to be his word. We argued that the six months of the new parliamentary session offered him ample time to show through legislative action the substance of this promise.

"In barely six days, any pretence at reform had been reduced to a grotesque farce," says *THE TRIBUNE*. As a consequence, the newspaper said, the government "stood wholly discredited before the world and before an increasingly embittered people at home.

"The minister of foreign affairs cuts a pathetic figure before the international community and the official opposition is leaderless and struggling to retain credibility through being in any way associated with the tricameral system," it said.

THE TRIBUNE says the "successive failures of P.W. Botha to formulate effective reform are proving catastrophic for South Africa. The successive attempts by Pik Botha to convince the world that power-sharing is a sincere intention have led, illogically and unfairly, to a public rebuke and humiliation that he surely cannot weekly endure and still retain his self-esteem.

"He (Mr Pik Botha) owes it to the country to resign.

The PFP [Progressive Federal Party] leader, Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert's resignation from parliamentary politics was "another matter entirely. He is a man of high intellect, keen perception, great courage, personal charm and rare integrity.

"His decision to quit convention politics is obviously an intensely personal one. He had set himself the dual task of leading the opposition publicly and of seeking in private a standing that would enable him to persuade those high in government to enter into negotiation across racial and political barriers.

THE TRIBUNE, however, says the timing of Dr van Zyl Slabbert's resignation was bad. It said "a week into the beginning of a crucial parliamentary session he has left his colleagues without a natural successor. Worse, his own assessment of Parliament's irrelevance raises the question whether those he has left behind should stay there.

"But we have no doubt about the relevance of parliamentary opposition," it says. "Van Zyl Slabbert may have some other way of serving South Africa from outside. We hope he finds it soon. The country cannot afford to lose such talent."

12 February Press Examines Current Issues

MB120532 [Editorial Report] **Possible PFP Split**

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 11 February reports on page 1 that "the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] faces the real threat of a split in its ranks if Dr Alex Boraine becomes the new leader of the party. *THE CITIZEN* learned yesterday that at least one Transvaal MP has stated his intention to resign if Dr Boraine takes over the leadership, which would open the way for other members to follow suit. The members involved do not plan to join the National Party [NP] or quit Parliament but would remain in the House of Assembly as independent members for the time being."

President To Ask Vote of Confidence

Political correspondent Brian Stuart reports on page 2 of the paper that President P.W. Botha "may ask for a vote of confidence at Thursday's meeting of the National Party Caucus in Cape Town to end speculation about the loyalties of caucus members." Former PFP Leader Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert "also eased tensions within the NP by emphatically denying a Sunday newspaper report that 35 NP members had offered to join him if he did not resign as PFP leader." On the issue of the attack on Foreign Minister Pik Botha, Pik Botha's friends "say he intends to ride out the storm." He attended a party executive meeting this weekend chaired by Mr F.W. de Klerk, who represents the conservative wing of the party. "NP sources say Mr Botha's decision to stay in the Cabinet removes much of sting of Friday's events."

CITIZEN on Slabbert

In its editorial on page 6, the paper criticizes resigned Progressive Federal Party leader Dr Van Zyl Slabbert's decision to stay away from the parliamentary session set aside to praise him. "We think Dr Slabbert, who was self-indulgent in resigning, was churlish in not allowing members to pay tribute to his leadership." However, the paper also notes that all sides were sorry about his resignation as he was widely respected "as a man of integrity and intellect." The paper pays him tribute "as a man of distinction, whose disappearance from politics will leave a gap that will not easily be filled."

Slabbert Denies Self-Indulgence

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 11 February carries a report on page 1 citing former PFP leader Slabbert as dismissing charges that his resignation from Parliament "was an act of self-indulgence." "However, he admitted that his decision to turn his back on Parliament had "left some people feeling pretty raw."" In an interview, he defended his decision, saying "an indecisive exit dragging on for months would have harmed the PFP even more." He said he did not see himself " 'as a leader mobilising the country marching to Pretoria.' " "His main reason for abandoning Parliament was government's stubborn refusal to accept that apartheid would not survive."

'Blackmail' of Bell & Howell

In a report in page 3, the paper cites Barrie McCurdie, South African managing director of Bell & Howell, as saying the parent company had decided to sell its interest in the country " 'because of its exposure to blackmail — that's not too strong a word — in tendering to state governments.' " He said the subsidiary would be an excellent acquistion.

ASSOCOM Denies Criticism

On the same page, the paper cites Association of Chambers of Commerce [ASSOCOM] President Rocky Ridgway as denying charges that business' lack of support for change caused Slabbert's resignation, as charged by Slabbert and PFP MP Andrew Savage. He said the two critics failed to appreciate that ASSOCOM " 'was not the economic arm of the PFP, nor of any other political party.' " He said the criticism stemmed from a false perception. " 'Business has a role to play as a catalyst for reform in this country, but the perceptions of how it is going about this function are at variance with the facts. But to put the thing in its proper perspective, I must question the statement made by Savage that blacks perceive business as a well-rewarded partner of the apartheid regime. Why well-rewarded? We'd be far better rewarded in a system which outlaws apartheid because with its restriction on freedom of movement and labour, for instance, apartheid throttles business.'"

BUSINESS DAY on Pik Botha

In its editorial on page 6 the paper said its editorial yesterday on Pik Botha was "unjustly harsh." "In this space we took him to task for sins that were not of his making without perhaps giving sufficient weight to two facts." First is that his role of balancing, say the Americans against some of his more unenlightened colleagues is very difficult and complex. "He has a long and distinguished record of endeavour in this respect on behalf of his country." He is also "undoubtedly one of the enlightened member of the Cabinet and by and large we can make common cause with his acceptance of realities in this country. He did not deserve the treatment he has had from the State President."

Group Areas Act Examined

Johannesburg *RAPPORT* in Afrikaans on page 2 reports that the Group Areas Act is being examined as never before under the political microscope. The manner in which the act can be amended in a changing South Africa while retaining the protection of groups has become the subject of intensive discussion among members of the National Aprty in the House of Assembly. While no decision is expected until the President's Council completes its investigation, the report says it is accepted that this act, together with the Separate Amenities Act, will have to be changed. "On the latter act," the report says, "the NP MP for

Innesdale, Mr Albert Nothnagel, expressed himself this week in the no-confidence debate as follows: 'Every time apartheid loses, the white man benefits. I would want to see the act go soon...I am busying myself with ensuring that the Separate Amenities Act has to be abolished.' " The report adds that apart from the criticism of the two acts by the nonwhite groups, there is also the practical problem, since the removal of the act prohibiting mixed marriages, of married mixed couples finding accommodation.

RAPPORT Urges Unanimity

In an editorial on page 16, the paper says interpretations of President Botha's speech at the opening of Parliament have differed. One view has been that as apartheid falls away, the division of race groups would have to give way to collective action, even in political structures, while the other was that group interests and group security will remain central in the policy of power sharing. "After the speech by Minister F.W. de Klerk on division of power which goes together with power sharing, and of Minister Pik Botha over the possibility of a black president in future, this was seen as a confrontation and a clashing of policy statements." The paper asks that the debate be kept open, even in National Party circles, on real issue affecting the new power sharing policy. "There is still uncertainty over the form of power sharing, the definition of participating groups, the nature of the Group Areas Act, and other apartheid laws. The government's credibility depends on unanimity in policy formulation and implementation."

RAPPORT on Slabbert Resignation

On the resignation of Dr van Zyl Slabbert, the paper says in a second editorial on page 16 that it doubts that his move will bring about a stronger PFP and that the reasons he gave for resigning are a very unfair slap to the governmnet, after the state president's speech to Parliament and the advertising campaign the president undertook. "The principles for further development have been spelled out, and Dr Slabbert ought to know that we are on the threshold of new breakthrough." It adds that it is a pity that a man of Dr Slabbert's stature and ability had to allow personal frustrations to gain the upper hand.

BEELD on Slabbert Resignation

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 11 February says in an editorial on page 12 that the departure of Dr van Zyl Slabbert from Parliament is strange in the light of his statement that Parliament remains the only body which can bring about constitutional change, and asks that he should not now make it more difficult for those inside Parliament to continue their work. "He ought to know that his actions are already grist to the mill of those who want to unleash all sorts of forces opposed to reasonable peaceful change. And as President Botha rightly said to *BEELD*, it is surprising that a politician should turn his back on Parliament."

BEELD on Black Education

In a second editorial on the same page, the paper says the struggle against ignorance in this southern point of Africa is one of the most significant taking place, and particularly in the field of black education. Dr Gerrit Viljoen can boast of seven blacks now appointed as deputy directors, which "underlines the fact that in his department there are no limits to the levels to which blacks can advance." The paper points out that in his address to Parliament, President Botha emphasized that the government was committed to a uniform education policy, and that billions of rands had been allocated to bring this goal to reality. "It will depend on the blacks themselves how they use this opportunity," the paper concludes.

Statutory Council in Jeopardy

David Braun reports on the front page of Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 11 February that Chief Buthelezi's statement on President Botha's criticism of Foreign Minister Pik Botha could mean that "the Government's proposed National Statutory Council to involve blacks at the highest executive level may have been shot on the ground." PFP interim leader Colin Eglin described Buthelezi's statement "as a major setback for whatever plans the Government may have had" and proof that President Botha " 'put the unity of the National Party before the interests of South Africa.' "

Eglin PFP Front Runner

Another front-page report says that Eglin "is emerging as the front runner for the leadership of the Progressive Federal Party." He is expected to be apponted acting leader of the meeting of the PFP Federal Council of 15 February and confirmed as national leader at the next PFP congress. Eglin "is generally seen as the person best able to hold party together."

Du Plessis Speaks in Parliament

"Minister of Finance Mr Barend du Plessis admitted in the House of Delegates yesterday that the present tax system was too complex and unfair in some cases," an article on page 4 reports. Du Plessis said he agreed the 12 percent general sales tax was too high, but said that excluding certain foodstuffs from the tax would not change the problem. A related article on the same page says that Du Plessis also told the House of Delegates that "it was unfair to blame the State President's Durban Rubicon speech for South Africa's problems." Another report on page 4 says the Du Plessis has warned "that excessive wage and salary increases this year will result in more inflation," adding that the inflation rate was " 'still inordinately high.' " Du Plessis also said the decline in the price of oil would help the country's balance of payments, the upward trend in gold prices was likely to remain, a real growth rate of 3 percent could be expected, and the government's job creation program should continue to bear fruit.

MP's Table Motions

David Braun report on private members' motions tabled in the House of Assembly on page 4. PFP MP Helen Suzman moved that the petition of two Moutse representatives opposing incorporation into KwaNdebele be heard. PFP MP Harry Schwarz moved that a committee be formed to study repealing all laws of a discriminatory nature. A Conservative Party MP asked that the House of Assembly confirm the government's "inability to prevent the crowding out of whites at public beaches and recreational facilities."

Indian Resettlement Plans Denied

A page 4 report that the minister of local government, housing, and agriculture in the House of Delegates, Baldeo Dookie, has denied rumors of plans to resettle the Indian community of Pine Ridge, Germiston in another area.

Soweto Fund for Unrest Victims

An article on page 5 says that the Greater Soweto Chamber of Commerce and Industry "yesterday launched a relief fund to help pay for medical care and funerals of unrest victims and for community-building programmes." The chamber's president said the fund was intended to stop "the chaotic situation whereby various groups call on business people on a regular basis demanding funds and goods for numerous activities."

Blacks' Supplemental Income

A report on page 15 says that a Markinor survey has found that 31 percent of black urban men and 23 percent of black urban women had some form of additional income earned to supplement their regular income. The most common means of supplementing household income was by selling. Markinor concluded that the importance of " 'this informal business sector will increase' " as " 'the economy continues to have a major impact on all South Africans.' "

Tutu Gets Most Support

A report on another Markinor survey on the same page says the survey found that "Bishop Desmond Tutu is the leader considered to represent black interests best — more so than Nelson Mandela." The survey of 800 urban blacks found 20 percent supported Bishop Tutu, 14 percent supported Mandela, and 9 percent supported Chief Buthelezi. The United Democratic Front was the best-liked organization with 12 percent, followed by the ANC with 10 percent, and Inkatha with 8 percent. The least-liked organization was the National Party.

Distortions in Agricultural Wealth

"The distribution of South Africa's agricultural wealth was distorted — with a mere 6 percent owning more than half of the country's farming resources," according to the deputy director general of the department of agricultural economics, Ken Hamilton reports on page 5. He also said "the financial position of South aFrica's farmers in 1985 was satisfactory in spite of abnormal unfavourable natural circumstance and price increases," and added that "the white depopulation of the platteland was also causing security problems."

Bread Price Rise

"If the total subsidy on bread is abolished on October 1 this year — in line with the Davin's Commission's recommendations — the price of bread will rise considerably, with the cost of a loaf soaring by about 24 percent," according to the Wheat Board Sue Leeman reports on page 5.

Outlook for Maize Exports

Another report on the same page says that according to the Maize Board, in spite of the weak rand, the short-term outlook for maize exports is not good since international surpluses for all grains were expected.

National Party Division

On page 15, David Braun discusses the division within the National Party between "those who adhere to group identity (separate development by any other name) and those who want to move towards freedom of association." The latter group believes that all discriminatory legislation, including the Group Areas Act, must go. However, a few group areas would be reserved for population groups that want them and racial exclusivity would not be outlawed. The group also believes in releasing Nelson Mandela and unbanning the ANC. "The extent of the party's liberal wing is estimated to be between two and four dozen MPs. About half the Cabinet could be included in the broader definition of the group."

PFP Official Calls for Resignations

Another report on the same page says that Dinkie Pillay, a member of the PFP federal council, has called on the PFP's remaining 26 MPs to resign their seats in solidarity with former PFP leader Slabbert's resignation.

SOWETAN On Police Actions

The Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English for 11 February editorializes on page four about the recent killing of two young schoolchildren by police and the resulting school boycott by students. "Experience should have taught the police by now that shooting and killing schoolkids has not solved the problems of the townships." No matter how the government tries to justify the police actions, "the fact that schooling is once more being disrupted cannot possibly be justified," the editorial says. It calls on the government to issue a directive to the police on how to handle unrest and calls on the communities in the townships to display calm in the face of these actions. "We must now allow ourselves to be dragged down to the levels of immorality while struggling for morality and justice."

ZAMBIA

Goma Suggests Further Sanctions Against RSA

MB100744 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Further sanctions against racist South Africa should be considered if those already announced by various countries are not effective enough to pressure the regime to abolish its abominable apartheid policy. Foreign Affairs Minister Professor Lameck Goma said this on Television Zambia's "Sunday Interview" last night and added that sanctions measures will depend on the trend of events in the racist republic itself and the southern African subregion as a whole. He said the recent meeting between Frontline States and the EEC was a success becuase it afforded frontliners an opportunity to portray the situation in the region correctly to the community which, Prof Goma said, is being wooed by the Pretoria regime to support apartheid. Prof Goma also dispelled racist claims that Frontline States are trying to spread communism and explained that frontliners do not advocate violence by supporting liberation movements, but believed in peaceful means of change in the region. He also called on racist South Africa to unconditionally release nationalist leader Nelson Mandela and legalize the liberation movement to create a climate for dialogue among all South Africans.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 FEBRUARY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iran claimed further successes in a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio 13 February, asserting that Iranian forces continued to advance along the Al-Faw-Basra highway and dealt "mortal blows" to an Iraqi Presidential Guards Division which had attempted a counterattack. Iranian forces have reportedly "liberated" over 700 sq km of Iraqi territory in their current offensive. The communique also accused Iraq of resorting to chemical weapons, and a related IRNA report spoke of 1,500 Iranian soldiers injured by Iraqi gas attacks. The Iraqi information minister, however, denied that Iraq has used chemical weapons, asserting that Iran's claims in this regard are an attempt to cover the losses and retreat of Iranian forces, according to INA. In the same report, he also denied the fall of Umm Qasr. An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio likewise stressed that Iraq's III and VII Army Corps were continuing to foil the Iranian offensive, asserting that the VII Army is besieging Iranian troops and has forced them back several kilometers. Meanwhile, the Iraqi Air Force carried out hundreds of raids on ground targets and also attacked a "large enemy maritime target" and an Iranian "monitoring station," the communique added. While the communique reported that another Iranian F-4 was downed 13 February, IRNA subsequently claimed that Iran has downed 21 Iraqi warplanes and 2 helicopters in the course of the latest offensive.

As for the results of Iran's warning to Kuwait over Bubiyan Island, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stated in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio that Iran is "happy" that Kuwaiti officials have stated that Bubiyan and other Kuwaiti resources "will not be placed at the disposal of anyone." Nevertheless, the Kuwaiti foreign minister was one of seven Arab ministers attending an Arab League Followup Committee meeting in Baghdad called to discuss the Iranian "aggression," according to Baghdad radio.

In contrast, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i discussed the military situation in telephone conversations with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, according to Tehran radio.

Iran

Documents allegedly showing that Iran is training guerrilla squads for sabotage missions in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are CIA forgeries, an Iranian deputy minister said in a news conference reported by IRNA. The official added that Iran categorically denies forming such guerrilla teams.

PDRY

There are no Soviet military bases in the PDRY, Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas claimed in a Kuwaiti press interview reported by KUNA. In the *AL-SIYASAH* interview, Al-'Attas invited journalists to visit Suqutra Island and the rest of the country to verify his statement. Al-'Attas also said that while the PDRY desires closer ties with the YAR, GCC states, and other Arab countries, it is indifferent toward the United States' nonrecognition of the new leadership. In a separate statement reported by WAKH, Al-'Attas told the UAE's *AL-KHALIJ* that there has been no mediation between the new government and former leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

Libya-Chad

Ndjamena radio denied that Koro Toro has fallen to "Libyan forces," maintaining that the northern Chadian town was not attacked. The Chadian Government has the situation "under control" in Kouba Olanga but "violent fighting" continues in Oum Chalouba, Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou told the radio. According to Lassou, enemy losses totalled 216 killed and 220 captured while government losses amounted to 4 killed and 20 wounded.

Israel

Relations With Egypt — Reporting on the outcome of the 12 February Israeli-Egyptian talks in Herzliyya, Jerusalem radio said the two sides have decided that the "arbitral compromis" will not include issues that are not directly connected to the Tabah dispute. IDF radio reported earlier that the two sides had reached agreement on various practical arrangements for the arbitration. In a related development, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir received the head of the Egyptian delegation, who stressed Egypt's desire to improve relations in all fields and reaffirmed Egypt's "positive" view of the Israeli Inner Cabinet decision to submit the Tabah issue to arbitration, according to Jerusalem radio.

Relations With Ivory Coast — Foreign Minister Shamir congratulated the president and Government of the Ivory Coast for their decision to reestablish relations with Israel. The renewal of relations was announced earlier by Jerusalem and Abidjan radios.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'arafat invited Executive Committee members to an "urgent" meeting to study recent U.S. statements on the Middle East peace process, a Palestinian source told KUNA. Meanwhile, *DIE WELT* cited a GDR Government source as saying that Fatah Revolutionary Council leader Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, is currently being treated for liver cancer in a state hospital in East Berlin, according to AFP.

Saudi Arabia-Egypt

During a visit to Cairo, Saudi Prince Turki told the Egyptian magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR* that Egyptian-Saudi relations are a "strategic necessity" and that President Husni Mubarak and King Fahd should meet in the near future, MENA reported. Prince Turki, a brother of King Fahd, disclosed that he was received by President Mubarak during his "private" visit, noting that the talks covered the Arab situation and Egyptian-Saudi relations.

Lebanon

The arrests and accusations concerning "terrorist cells" in East Berlin have no justification, former Lebanese Forces leader Elie Hubayqah said in a statement broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio.

Algeria

President Chadli Bendjedid appointed four new ministers and abolished three vice ministerial posts, APS reported.

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FRG Daily Claims Abu Nidal in GDR Hospital

AU121713 PARIS AFP IN ENGLISH 1709 GMT 12 FEB

[Text] Bonn, Feb 12 (AFP) — Underground Palestinian leader Abu Nidal, suspected of organising the recent terrorist attacks on Rome and Vienna airports, is undergoing treatment at a state hospital in East Berlin, the daily *DIE WELT* reports in tomorrow's (13 Feb) edition.

DIE WELT bases its report on what it says was informant on received by diplomats in Vienna from an East German governmental source.

The newspaper also quotes West German police and Middle Eastern sources as saying Abu Nidal, aged 49, has liver cancer.

The medical costs, the newspaper says, are being footed by the gulf state that finances Abu Nidal's splinter Fata revolutionary command.

DIE WELT also reports that East German leader Erich Honecker has invited Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasir 'Arafat to East Berlin for the East German Communist Party's 11th congress.

Weekly Cites Soviet Conditions for 'Arafat Visit

PM121229 Cairo UKTUBAR in Arabic 9 Feb 86 p 5

[Maryam Rubin report: "Soviet Conditions for 'Arafat Moscow Visit"]

[Text] *UKTUBAR* has learned that the most important results of PLO political department Chief Faruq Qaddumi's recent talks in Moscow can be summed up in the following points:

1. Agreement that [PLO Executive Committee Chairman] 'Arafat would be invited to the Soviet Union after this month's CPSU Congress provided that he is accompanied by the PLO Executive Committee members elected during the 16th PNC session but not those elected during the 17th PNC session.

2. The Soviet Union agreed to continue its mediation efforts between the PLO under 'Arafat's leadership and Syria with a view to mending the rift between them.

In this connection, Syria wants 'Arafat to issue a statement explaining that he had been misled about Syria and its attitude toward him and stressing that Syria is the leader of the Arab march and struggle. *Uktubar* has learned that 'Arafat accepted the second part but not the first.

3. It was agreed that the aforementioned statement would be issued through PLO Representative in Saudi Arabia Rafiq al-Natshah.

It was also agreed that a PLO central committee [as published] delegation would visit Damascus unconditionally before 'Arafat's visit to resolve the main issues in the dispute.

Arab Ministers Request Security Council Meeting

JN130611 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The Arab follow-up committee steming from the Arab League'sdesire to follow up the Iraq-Iran war has adopted an urgent plan of action to face the new Iranian aggression against Iraq. At the conclusion of its meeting last night, the committee decided to request an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss the Iraq-Iran war in general and the new Iranian aggression against Iraq in particular.

The meeting was attended by Chedli Klibi, the Arab League secretary general; the foreign ministers of Jordan, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the YAR; the Moroccan national education minister; and the Iraqi foreign minister.

U.S. Remarks Prompt 'Arafat To Call Meeting

LD121905 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1716 GMT
12 Feb 86

[Text] Tunis, 12 Feb (KUNA) — An informed alestinian source said here today that PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat has invited Executive Committee members, to an urgent meeting to study the recent official U.S. statements concerning the peace process in the Middle East.

The source, who asked to remain anonymous, told KUNA: "The official Palestinian position toward the mentioned U.S. official statements cannot be determined without a resoiution from the PLO Executive Committee."

By this the source was referring to a statement by PLO Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi, who described the statement of the U.S. State Department's official spokesman last monday [10 February] as "continuing nothing new and not reflecting any change in the known U.S. position."

The U.S. spokesman has said that the U.S. administration does not consider UN Security Council Resolution No 242 as sufficient for resolving the issue of the Palestinian people, and that the rights of that people should be taken into consideration when a settlement is sought for the Middle East issue.

PLO Proposals on Mideast Settlement Published

LD111801 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1146 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Feb (KUNA) — The newspaper *AL-QABAS* published today the text of the Palestinian paper which was presented by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during his latest meeting with King Husayn of Jordan. The document contains the Palestinian proposals for breaking the deadlock in the Middle-East crisis.

The Kuwaiti newspaper emphasized through Palestinian sources which it described as well-informed, that a member of the Fatah Central Committee drafted the proposals which were presented by Yasir 'Arafat to King Husayn who was to convey them to Washington.

The paper contained three proposals about the form of the Palestinian attendance and about the basis on which the process of negotiations can be started in the future.

The newspaper said that the first Palestinian proposal states that the PLO should be on an equal footing within the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation as the first step for confederal union with Jordan, which was stipulated in the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement signed last year.

The newspaper reported the text of the second Palestinian proposal, which included the presence of a joint Arab delegation which would comprise a number of Palestinian members equal to the number of members from each Arab country, and that all the members would sit at the same table opposite another table at which would sit the other side.

According to the newspaper, the third proposal stipulates that dealings with the PLO would be in stages, including the meeting of a U.S. delegate with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, after which the United States would announce its recognition of the PLO as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people, in return for recognition by the organization of Resolutions 242 and 338, on condition that the recognition by the PLO would guarantee its entry to the conference as a main partner. After this, all the parties of the international conference would be invited.

The text of the Palestinian paper, as published by *AL-QABAS*, lays down the conditions of the basis of the negotiation process in which the organization proposes that the basis of the negotiations is its recognition of all the resolutions issued by the United Nations, among which are Resolutions 242 and 338, in order that the organization knows in advance the condition for U.S. recognition of the PLO. However, if Washington insisted on the participation of the PLO on the basis of Resolution 242, it will on its part demand in advance international guarantees for the recognition of the entire rights of the Palestinian people in return for the recognition by the PLO of Resolutions 242 and 338.

The Palestinian paper requested the convocation of an international conference which will be attended equally by the parties in the Arab-Israeli conflict and with the presence of the United States and the Soviet Union, and which would be attended by the permanent members of the UN Security Council as observers.

PFLP Condemns Autonomy Proposal, U.S. Statement

JN121437 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1322 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Damascus, 12 (SANA) — The PFLP has denounced the Zionist enemy prime minister's announcement about the readiness to implement the plot of autonomy in the occupied territory, affirming that this step comes within the context of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught and is aimed at burying and totally liquidating the Palestine question.

In a statement today, a PFLP spokesman said that the enemy prime minister's announcement of the implementation of the plot of autonomy unilaterally in accordance with the second part of the Camp David accords comes within the context of the imperialist- Zionist onslaught to liquidate the Palestine question. Consequently, this reveals the falseness of the Zionist peaceful claims propagated by Shim'on Peres during his European tour.

The Palestinian spokesman called for closing national ranks to topple this plot. He urged the progressive Arab and world public opinion to condemn and denounce this liquidatory scheme aimed at obliterating the Palestine question and denying the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, headed by the right to repatriation, self-determination, and an independent state.

The PFLP spokesman also described the U.S. position recently announced by the U.S. State Department spokesman as an exposed hoax and a new maneuver aiming at dragging the deviationist Palestinian rightwing leadership into the U.S. trap.

The Palestinian spokesman said that the U.S. verbal acknowledgement represented by talking about some of our people's legitimate rights is only a step in this context. He said that Washington was and will remain an enemy of our people's struggle and revolution.

Concluding his statement, the spokesman warned the deviationist leadership from falling into the U.S. trap. The PFLP urged Palestinian factions to close ranks and to confront the new U.S. intrigues.

PLO Western Europe Office Heads End Meeting

JN121959 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1648 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The series of meetings, which were held between the heads of PLO offices in West European countries on one hand and the cadres of the PLO Political Department on the other in the Department's headquarters in Tunis from 7-11 February under the chairmanship of Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, have ended. During these meetings, the conferees fully reviewed developments in the Palestine question, PLO relations with West European countries, the situation in the Palestinian arena in particular, and the Arab situation in general, as well as the nature of the work of PLO offices and representatives in Europe.

During the meetings, Abu al-Lutf presented a full report on political developments and future plans for action in the European arena. During one of the sessions, Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, also submitted a report on the latest developments, as well as on the recent Palestinian-Jordanian talks in Amman.

The heads of the PLO offices also presented detailed reports on relations between the PLO and West European countries, as well as on the work of these offices. The conferees noted that the PLO is being exposed to a concentrated onslaught by the United States and other circles in an attempt to cancel the Palestinian people's national identity, to destroy the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, and to liquidate the Palestinian people's inalienable rights. They use in this onslaught wicked ways to put military, political, and financial pressure on the PLO, as well as to besiege it in an attempt to isolate it from world public opinion and from its people.

The meetings were concluded by defining a general plan to begin political moves during the next phase — moves based on full adherence to the Palestinian people's basic principles, particularly their right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state; adherence to international legitimacy represented in all the UN resolutions concerning the Palestine question; the need to reinforce all means of legitimate struggle, including armed struggle, recognized by international laws to allow militant peoples to liberate their homelands from foreign occupation; full commitment to PNC resolutions during its successive sessions; the need to implement resolutions concerning democratic dialogue for the sake of Palestinian national unity and reinforcing it; the need to strengthen militant relations between the PLO on one hand and socialist countries, nonaligned countries, Islamic countries, all progressive and democratic forces in the world, and liberation movements in Africa, Asia, and Latin America; and the need to develop relations with all West European countries in all political, cultural, health, and economic areas so that these relations may become as strong as current relations between the PLO on one hand and Greece, Austria, Cyprus, and Italy on the other.

PLO Spokesman Urges Arab Support for Iraq

JN122008 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1648 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The PLO has reiterated its support for Iraq in repulsing the Iranian aggression. The PLO also urged the leaders of the Arab nation to move quickly to participate in the battle which Iraq is currently waging against Iran in defense of the Arab lands. Official PLO Spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman told INA in Tunis last night that history will not have mercy on those who are colluding with the Iranian agression or on those who are sitting back with arms folded while the aggressor is trying to launch and aggression against Iraqi-Arab territories and to harm the sovereignty of Iraq and the Arab nation.

He also condemned the Iranian regime's position on the calls for peace and its continued aggression against Iraq. He reiterated the PLO'scalls for ending the war to which Iraq has responded.

Algiers VOP Editor Notes U.S. Ambiguity

LD122207 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Station political editor commentary]

[Excerpt] Brothers, yesterday, the deputy official spokesman of the U.S. Administration made a statement on the Palestinians and the rights of our Palestinian people. This statement made by the deputy official spokesman for the U.S. Administration was ambiguous and unclear. Why? This question is answered by the political editor of the radio [not further identified] through this dispatch received from him today:

All the interpretations that could suggest a positive meaning of the latest U.S. statement concerning Resolutions 242 and 338 and the Palestinian issue are incomplete.

Concerning the form, first, the official who made the statement was the deputy official spokesman for the U.S. State Department. He was not the secretary of state, Mr. Shultz, for example, or President Reagan. This has a clear significance regarding the extent of importance that Washington wants to attach to this statement, and the extent of its commitment to it. Apart from this, and if we examine the contents of the statement, Mr. Redman said that the U.S. Administration had in the past declared that it realized that the Palestinian question was more than a question of refugees. He did not specify, however, to what level it was more than this, nor did he give any explanation of the nature of this problem.

Therefore, and as it transpires from the rest of the statement, the U.S. Administration has failed to present any conception of the final form that could be a solution to the Palestinian question. Thus, the expression of legitimate right of the Palestian people, which has a positive sound in our ears, remains an obscure sentence in the expression of Washington's position. He did not mention any details regarding its meaning within internationally understood positions concerning the rights of peoples, or those clear from the Palestinian question itself. This meaning in particular is the right to self-determination and the right to return.

GCC Secretary General on U.S., USSR Gulf Attitudes

PM071547 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 24 Jan 86 p 6

['Ali 'Atallah report: "Bisharah Lectures GCC Diplomats Seminar: Criteria for Attitudes of the Two Superpowers Toward GCC"]

[Excerpts] His Excellency GCC Secretary General Ya'qub Bisharah delivered a lecture entitled "The Arab Gulf and the Two Superpowers" as part of a series of lectures delivered at the second seminar for GCC diplomats on the question of "Gulf cooperation" held at the academy of diplomatic studies at the Foreign Ministry in Riyadh.

The following are the general outlines of the GCC secretary general's lecture:

I will confine my words to discussing the attitudes of both the Soviet Union and the United States toward the GCC since its establishment in May 1981 and up to this day. I will not deal with the historical stands of the two countries toward the Gulf states because it is necessary, in view of our short time, to concentrate on one aspect of the subject so that the benefit will be greater.

The GCC and The Soviet Union

We cannot ignore the fact that the Soviet union is a slow-moving superpower with its own international calculations or that its decision-making is complex and governed by several considerations, the most important of which is to avoid adventures and rashness. It would be correct to say that the Soviet Union is a conservative state whose actions and behavior are predictable; it does not take rash steps in order to obtain regional or international gains. It has its own calculations, and its strategy is tied to its all-embracing view.

However, this should not exempt it from criticism for being slow and hesitant in adopting stands. Therefore, it is our right to "blame" the Soviet Union for its "cool and indifferent" attitude toward the GCC. The first official comment I heard from the Soviet leaders on the GCC was during an official meeting between the Kuwait deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, and the Soviet foreign minister, Gromyko in Moscow.

In April 1981, about 1 month before the official proclamation of the GCC, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad explained the objective behind the establishment of the GCC. Gromyko's response to this explanation was typical and predictable. He said that the Soviet Union knows nothing about the GCC and its philosophies. But, he added, the Soviet Union will be observing it and will declare its support for it. I was present at the meeting as a member of the Kuwaiti delegation. I was not surprised by this attitude since Soviet policy toward the GCC is influenced by traditional and inherited views — that this region includes Western strategic, economic, and political interests, and confrontation with the Western countries in the region is not part of Soviet plans. Although in the fifties and sixties Moscow was involved in a clash over the Middle East with Western countries, and particularly the United States, it was pursuing a different course in the Gulf that avoided a direct clash and mainly lent support to the nationalist forces resisting foreign influence.

During his visit to India in December 1980 Brezhnev announced a five-point peace initiative calling for neutralizing the region, guaranteeing its safety and security, and pledging not to attack the Gulf oil installaitons or shipping routes. In a speech before the Indian parliament he cited "Western allegations" about Soviet threats to the strategic oil-producing area.

The Soviet Union has put forth many proposals about neutralizing Latin America, Europe, or Africa. The objective of these initiatives is to score political propaganda points among these peoples and to portray the Soviet Union as their natural ally in their quest for liberation from Western or foreign influence.

Also, these principles cost the Soviet Union nothing as it has no traditional position in the region and the fleets to which Brezhnev's principle refers are Western, there for the purpose of defending Western interests and containing Soviet influence in the Indian Ocean or the Arabian Sea.

The Soviet Union's policy toward the GCC countries is to encourage the national trend toward self-reliance, keep the region away from the race for spheres of influence, and to neutralize it. This is the objective but the method has been traditionally futile: re-lying on a policy of caution, circumspection, and preservation; fearing confrontation, but not hesitating to applaud and openly support nationalist sentiments.

Following the establishment of the GCC and the crystalization of its foreign policy, on the basis of the stands defined by their majesties and highnesses the GCC leaders, and contained in the council's statements and documents, the Soviet Union did not seek to get acquainted with the new situation in the Gulf. Rather it was content with the traditional Russian method of watching from a distance with its traditional suspicious view. During the first 2 years of the GCC's establishment, the Soviet Union was influenced by its relationship with South Yemen and the dispute between Aden and Muscat and its desire to remain distant from Arab regional sensitivities.

Therefore, during the period from the GCC's establishment to 1984 I did not detect any direct interest by Moscow in the GCC or its course. I am not sure whether during that period the Soviet Union was seriously studying the experiment through its embassies in the area or the Arab capitals. It was content with keeping its distance and silence.

Also the Soviet Union, which portrays itself and is portrayed by Third World communist parties as the natural ally of the Third World peoples, is very sensitive to the attitudes of the GCC states toward the Soviet presence in Afghanistan.

There are certain Arab countries that support the Soviet presence in Afghanistan and have no reservations about it. Moscow and its ambassador get upset with the GCC countries' declared stands on this subject. The Soviet UN representative raised this point with me personally. I think he imagines that the attitude of the GCC countries is not spontaneous, stemming from certain beliefs and interaction with the Afghan people, but rather that this attitude is not entirely free of Western influence aimed at slandering the Soviet Union.

I believe that in this regard the Soviet Union did not seek to understand the causes of the attitude of the GCC countries and, instead, continued to ignore the matter and remained indifferent to its implications.

At a meeting between the Soviet ambassador to Kuwait and myself in 1984, the ambassador raised several points regarding the GCC. He did not show, however,that Moscow has ceased to be the captive of its own imagination. It appeared to me that the ambassador was surprised by the extent of the GCC's diplomatic flexibility when I suggested holding a dialogue with the GCC at any time or in any institute he suggested. But I have not heard from him since.

The Soviet Union attaches great importance to exchanging diplomatic representatives with the world's countries as it is impelled by the race with the United States to establish a diplomatic presence in all world capitals, especially in capitals of countries that have no historical ties with Moscow such as the Gulf states. Also, the Soviet Union interprets Muscat's and Abu Dhabi's decisions [to establish relations with the USSR] differently from the GCC countries, which see in them no more than subjective decisions beneficial to both sides.

Although the establishment of diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union illicited cautious praise from its press for the Muscat summit resolutions, which *PRAVDA* described as demonstrating these countries' resolve to preserve their independence and security based on self-reliance, the view of doubt and suspicion toward the council is still the stronger factor in evaluating the Soviet Union's policy toward the GCC countries. Obviously Soviet policy toward the GCC will not change and will continue to be based on the lack of conviction and belief in the interpretations and stands of the GCC countries regarding defense cooperation. Moscow believes that it has painful historical experiences with military blocs, particularly the Western countries' blocs, during the past two centuries, and that the Warsaw Pact bloc is defensive for the purpose of repelling what the Soviets term imperialist plots that continue to be hatched against the Soviet Union.

It is difficult to separate this wound from which Moscow is suffering from its view toward the GCC.

Moscow's Current Policy

Moscow's current policy toward the Gulf states can be summed up as follows:

1. Seeking to develop relations between Moscow and the GCC countries in all fields, provided that this effort remains confined to the bilateral framework.

2. Intensifying the Soviet diplomatic and economic presence without any change in the basic and fundamental attitude toward the GCC.

3. Seeking to contain the Western presence through supporting nationalist sentiments in the GCC countries, by isolating the area from the race between the big powers and by [fostering] self-reliance in ensuring stability and security. In this regard, to achieve its objective the Soviet Union depends on historical developments, a rise in national consciousness, and a serious inclination toward asserting national sovereignty and independence. Its method in the area is not much different from that which it has followed in other parts of the world, that is, to put the United States and the Western countries in a defensive position and to embarrass them.

It can be said that in this regard the Soviet Union has benefited and is still benfiting from the U.S. attitude toward the Palestine problem and from its attempts to exploit the negative feelings toward the United States in order to improve its own image and to pose as sympathizing with such feelings. This is evident in the activities of Soviet journalists and visitors in the area who have intensified their presence and journalistic meetings to an extraordinary level.

In my view Soviet policy toward the GCC countries, despite its recent development, is suffering from two basic elements. The first, and the more important, is that the GCC with its countries and institutions is a council for development and not change, a council that goes along with the march of history but which is not a mechanism for storms and hurricanes; it seeks adherence to heritage and to maintain the balance of power. It is a council for change through persuasion and not violence, a council in which there is no room for ideologies, philosophies, or theories.

The Soviet Union is not a state that stands for status quo. If it wants to pursue its philosophies, then neither the economic, nor the social, nor the political system in the GCC countries — to say nothing of the magnanimous Islamic religion — can accept the trends of this philosophy. Therefore, the GCC's pulse is not in rhythm with the Soviet pulse.

The second element is that, according to my impressions, the Soviet Union has not realized the strength of the GCC states' insistence on preserving their independence and ensuring their sovereignty and pursuing a foreign policy stemming from their beliefs. The Soviet Union's mistake is that it imagines that the GCC countries can be influenced by the stands of other countries, including the United States. This is evident in the Soviet Union's attitude toward the GCC and its belief that the GCC is a military alliance. This is probably due to the recent nature of contacts between the Soviet Union and the Gulf states as well as due to the justifiable historical Russian suspicion of the Western countries.

To sum up, the Soviet Union is not convinced of the GCC's pronouncements that the security of the area is the responsibility of its countries and that the Gulf states insist on keeping the area away from the big powers' presence. The Soviet Union interprets this as a shout against it although it has no bases and fleets in the area. The Soviet attitude toward the GCC will remain cautious and cool while Moscow will continue to seek to develop relations bilaterally.

The United States and the GCC

The GCC was established while Reagan's philosophy of opposing the Soviet Union, confronting it, and containing its influence was dominating the White House.

It is natural for this philosophy not to ignore the unique position of the GCC countries where 41 percent of the world's oil reserves exist. This percentage increases to 55 percent if we include Iraq and Iran in these calculations.

Also, the GCC came into being as the Iraq-Iran war was raging and the U.S. wounds incurred in the Iranian revolution were still sore and painful.

For this reason the U.S. attitude toward the GCC is to a large extent influenced by these two factors: chasing Soviet influence and infiltrating its legitimate positions such as in Eastern Europe, and the painful wounds caused by the Iranian revolution.

The United States understands the GCC philosophy which, as I have already said, does not agree with the Soviet trend and which rejects the Soviet dialectic about history, heritage, and religion. It also realizes that the GCC is a body that rejects ideologies and is a power that preserves the status quo and is opposed to political and partisan piracy and to change based on violence.

The United States also benefited from historical and traditional ties and continuous dialogue with the GCC countries on an individual basis. It also benefited from the cultural and academic bridges and human contacts between the GCC countries and both Europe and America.

It was with such a credit that the United States came to the GCC — giving support, asking questions, and showing open-mindedness. The GCC has aroused its instinct of asking questions about the council, its bodies, its philosophy, and its objectives. While the Soviet Union showed a rigid reservation toward military cooperation among the member-states, the United States showed an interest in knowing more about the development of the GCC's work in all spheres.

The United States also submitted to the new reality by agreeing to deal with the GCC as an organization and an entity. This is evident in the annual meetings held in New York between the U.S. secretary of state and the GCC foreign ministers and secretary general during which the GCC's policy on world issues is discussed.

More important still is the fact that the United States acknowledges the GCC's legitimacy and its logic of self-reliance in preserving the security and stability of its member-states. It did not doubt these intentions; indeed, it felt that the logic of responsibilities makes it incumbent on the GCC countries to preserve their stability and security. It also felt that the sources of energy that its allies in Europe need can be protected and safeguarded only with the approval of the legitimate owners of these resources.

Therefore, the assertion of the policy of nonalignment, self-reliance, and building up intrinsic power is not only, in the final analysis, intended to serve the countries of the area and to achieve only their objectives, but also to secure and preserve the oil resources, keep away saboteurs, and safeguard resources in the interest of the world economy and for the benefit of association between the world's peoples. This is an objective that the world community is seeking to achieve.

This explains the U.S. attitude toward the GCC. To a large extent it is close to the GCC's philosophy of preserving the area and its security. However, the U.S. attitude toward the Palestine problem, its alignment with Israel, as well as its adoption of stands that do not accord with the national feelings in the GCC countries have affected its credibility in the Gulf and in the Arab world. It has also raised many questions about the integrity of its behavior.

Although the United States may have understood the GCC trend, may have gotten acquainted with it, and supported it, it failed to realize the strength of the GCC's links with Arab problems.

The Soviet Union did not hesitate to exploit this issue in order to embarrass Washington and to portray it as a power hostile to national feelings both in the Arab world and internationally.

The second and no less important factor is that the United States imagines that harmony can be created between the U.S. military presence in the Indian Ocean and the GCC's trends which express the true feelings of the area's people.

If the Soviet Union did not realize the strength of the GCC countries' independent spirit, the United States failed to realize the degree of seriousness about self-reliance and rejecting fleets in Gulf waters.

The Attitude of the Two Powers Toward Keeping the Gulf Away From Influence by Major Powers

Let us see how far the two superpowers respected the GCC resolutions to keep the area out of the race for spheres of influence. I believe that both sides appreciate the GCC countries' resolve to cooperate in preserving their security and stability by depending on their intrinsic power.

Both the Soviet Union and the United States realize that the GCC countries are capable of preserving and have resolved to preserve their security without resorting to foreign assistance. I have personally felt that this policy is appreciated. This question is different from that of a naval presence in areas near the Gulf where the two superpowers maintain tremendous fleets in their race for a military presence in the world's regions.

As a superpower the Soviet Union cannot withdraw from international waters simply because the United States wants it to do so. Nor can the United States turn its back on a Soviet military presence in new areas which it believes are traditional areas for Western fleets. Also, both powers are aware of the region's importance for the world economy as well as its strategic importance geographically and politically. For this reason, each side is convinced that the other side wants to consolidate its position, regardless of the feelings of the peoples of the area. This is contrary to the GCC's policies.

I would like to say that the emergence of the GCC with its tenets and trends has pulled the rug from under the U.S. allegation that there is a vacuum in the strategically, politically, and economically important Gulf region, that there is in a Gulf wealth without owners, or that there is a power vacuum that needs to be filled.

What has been proved is that there is an entity that is determined to deal collectively with security and defense matters and to tackle problems with a spirit of responsibility reflecting the Gulf peoples' realization of the characteristics of their region.

If defense cooperation caused the Soviets to imagine that the GCC has become a bloc influenced by the United States, the reality confirms that this cooperation has pulled the rug from under this and done away with Washington's ideas about volunteering, protecting, and keeping away the shadow of the red bear.

In my view, the Soviets have misread the GCC's policy of self-reliance, the policy that has "nullified" the U.S. pretext and given the GCC countries a great deal of international support and backing in keeping the area free of international influence.

The policy has also cut down to size the room for U.S. diplomatic maneuvering which, had it not been for the principle of self-reliance, security cooperation between the GCC countries, and the great efforts by the GCC to shoulder its responsibilities, would have led to the Gulf being filled with battleships and torpedo boats.

If the GCC has taken the Gulf out of the U.S. strategic belt and its calculations, it gave no room for the Soviet Union to roam the Gulf waters with its fleets.

This is not only because it has done away with the idea of a vacuum, or because it has strongly resisted the policy of polarization and refused the easy way out and depended on the Third World's understanding of its difficult choice, but because it has sought to export the GCC's experiment outside the Gulf in the hope that it will be an example to be emulated in resesting the major powers' inducements inside the Arab world.

BAHRAIN

Heir Apparent Receives Iraqi Ambassador

GF121030 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0925 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Manama, 12 Feb (WAKH) — Today in Manama His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and acting prime minister, received Taha Mahmud al-Qaysi, the Iraqi ambassador in Bahrain.

During the meeting which was attended by Shaykh Khalid ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah, chief of the Bahraini heir apparent's office, they reviewed bilateral relations and the means of promoting and strengthening them in various fields.

KUWAIT

Amir Inspects Bubiyan Island Military Defenses

LD131520 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] His highness the amir, commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, this afternoon paid an inspection visit to Bubiyan Island where his highness was welcomed by Chief of the General Staff General 'Abdallah Faraj al-Ghanim and a number of senior officers and cadres of the Army and Armed Forces.

Accompanied by a number of military commanders, his highness toured the island and inspected the advance defense posts of the Armed Forces.

Interior Ministry Warns People Away From Island

LD121641 Kuwait KUNA in English 1547 GMT 12 Feb 86

["Warning" — KUNA headline]

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 12 (KUNA) — The Interior Ministry Wednesday warned people of approaching the island of (Ouha) which lies to the south of (Failaa Island) until further notice.

The warning, which applies to all fishermen and cruised [as received] said people are to stay away from the northern and eastern sides of Ouha Island, adding the coast guards will patrol the area for violations of the warning.

Heir Apparent Telephones Iraqi RCC Chairman

LD121557 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1516 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] London, 12 Feb (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti heir apparent and Chairman of the Council of Miniters Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah today telephoned Izzat Ibrahim, deputy chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, who confirmed to him the soundness of the Iraqi position following recent development along the Iraqi-Iranian border.

PDRY

Papers Interview Al-'Attas on Goals, Policies

KUNA on AL-SIYASAH Interview

LD130931 Kuwait KUNA in English 0814 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 13 (KUNA) — The new leadership of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen is keen on promoting ties with the Arab states, GCC countries and Yemen Arab Republic, President Haydar al-'Attas maintained Thursday.

In an interview with local daily newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* published today, the Yemeni president said his country's relations will be based on the principles of good neighbourliness, mutual respect, non-interference in the internal affairs, and productive cooperation which yields peace, progress and stability in the region.

Asserting non-existence of any Soviet military bases in Democratic Yemen, Al-'Attas called on all media men to visit the whole country, and Soqotra Island in particular, to confirm that.

Commenting on U.S. statements over non-recognition of the new leadership in Democratic Yemen, the president said "we don't have any sort of ties with the U.S. and we don't mind whether it recognized the present leadership or not," affirming Aden's firm stance towards America "which will never change until the U.S. changes its hostile attitudes towards the just causes of the Arab people."

Al-"Attas dismissed as baseless labels describing the new leadership as representing the radical wing of the Yemeni Socialist Party, underlining that such rumours are fabricated by "antagonistic circles".

"We are nationalists and progressive. We love our people and country, and we hope peace will prevail our planet," he added.

The Yemeni president said the latest developments in the country entails reconsideration of the previously approved five-year-plan, adding that Aden has received some material and medical aid from a number of socialist and friendly countries and international organizations.

Responding to a question about Democratic Yemen's stance towards the Iraq-Iran war, the Yemeni head of state said his country is against this war as it is not in the interest of the two peoples. He urged a peaceful settlement through negotiations.

AL-KHALIJ Interview Reported

GF121730 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Interview with Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, by Abu Dhabi *AL-KHALIJ*, issued "today" — date and place not given]

[Text]*AL-KHALIJ*: What are the most prominent characteristics of the internal situation in the country?

Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas: The internal situation is stable and coherent and the rally of the masses around the party and the regime is strong and unlimited. The basic source of our strength and the main characteristic of the internal situation at the moment is the preoccupation of all the party, government, popular organs, and citizens with a large-scale effort designed to remove the effects of the bloody 13 January conspiracy, heal the wounds, and repair what was destroyed by the conspirators.

AL-KHALIJ: Palestinian sources state that there are still certain groups that support 'Ali Nasir Muhammad who participate in the party and government leadership in your country. What is your opinion in this regard?

Al-'Attas: The main principle that rules our stance since aborting the conspiracy is to call to account those who participated in the organization of collective human massacres and the killing of the party's historic leaderships and its experienced cadres and the innocent citizens, as well to call to account all those who carried arms as part of the bloody 13 January conspiracy and perpetrated crimes, destruction, and terrorism against the party, regime, and citizens. We do not look at the people according to their previous political inclinations or according to their districts, but according to their stances and practices. There are a number of those who used to sympathize with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and changed their opinions and stances after they found out the ugliness of the vile conspiracy and its total lack of any national or human values. Whoever condemned the conspiracy and did not participate in it is in our ranks and is struggling with us.

AL-KHALIJ: concerning the supporters of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad who are out of the country and who did not take part in the events, what will be the stance concerning them?

Al-'Attas: Many of 'Ali Nasir's supporters who were out of the country during the execution of the conspiracy returned. They are now taking part in the removal of the effects of the conspiracy at the side of the party members and the people's masses. Many of those who were misled and ran away during the events also returned. Not one of them was harmed. We welcome anyone who condemns the conspiracy and works with us to heal the wounds and to reconstruct what was destroyed by the conspirators.

AL-KHALIJ: In one of his press statements, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said that the current situation in Aden abolishes the formula of the unity conference held in 1975. In other words, all of the elements of the other factions except the national front have previously been overthrown. What is your opinion in this regard?

Al-'Attas: That is absolutely untrue. We do not look at people according to their factional or regional affiliations as 'Ali Nasir always does. We deal with them according to their stances on the party and its program and its internal system and principles, as well as their stances on the conspiracy. In his dealings with the people, 'Ali Nasir adopted a dangerous and suspicious method based on reviving the factional affiliations, instigating tribal feelings and bedouin disputes, and establishing regional and party groupings to prevent the development of the party and weaken its unity and tear apart the people's unity. I would like to point out that among those who were included in 'Ali Nasir's massacres on 13 January were a great number of comrade members of the YSP Central Committee and party cadres who used to belong to the group of national work groups and who used to disagree with his suspicious methods and divisional practices. There are many of those strugglers in our ranks at the moment who previously belonged to the national work groups and who are working with us today in the spirit of belonging to one party and the belief in its principles, method, and charters and struggle in various leadership levels, starting from the YSP Central Committee and Council of Ministers, through the various party and government leadership frameworks.

Further Details

GF131000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0925 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 13 Feb (WAKH) — PDRY Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas has told *AL-KHALIJ* that there is no mediation between the new government and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad since the situation has been decided in favor of the present authorities in Aden. He said that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad is wanted by justice.

Chairman al-'Attas refuted recent statements by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and said that no arrests are being made in his country. There are, however, actions being taken to bring to account those who were involved in the conspiracy against the PDRY people.

Lieutenant Colonel Ahmad 'Abdallah, commander of the PDRY navy [as received], estimated the destruction that befell his forces at about 80 to 90 percent of the Air Force planes in addition to tens of billions of Yemeni dinars in losses to the armed forces.

In statements published by the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I* today, he said that the forces opposed to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad destroyed 24 warplanes after they captured Aden airport and that 50 other planes were destroyed in Lahij Governorate, most of which were Soviet-built MIG's. He said 145 tanks were destroyed in the first few days of the fighting.

ARAB TIMES Reports YSP Secretary General Interview

GF121442 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 11 Feb 86 p 4

[Interview with 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee in the PDRY, by *AL-SIYASAH* correspondent Nabil Gazzawi in Aden — date not given]

[Text] The new secretary-general of the South Yemen Socialist Party, Ali Salim Al-Bid, has accused former Yemeni President, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad of being the main cause of the recent bloodshed in Aden. He said the practices of the former president and his group began more than two years ago.

In an interview with *AL-SIYASAH* newspaper in Aden, Al-Bid said that the tension began well before the third general conference of the socialist party in October. He said that when party members began discussing the violations committed by Nasir's group and the government, Nasir's group did not accept the discussion in a democratic way. During the discussion, Nasir's group was nervous. He stressed that the democratic spirit of the party seems to have vanished at the conference. Then 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his group began expanding the dispute to a regional and provincial basis. Al-Bid said they felt that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his group were intensifying the disputes and increasing tension, but never thought it would reach the point of fighting.

When the date of the conference was approaching, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's group began bringing armed people from other provinces into Aden and also bringing in arms. This made the atmosphere in Aden very tense, both before and during the conference. He said that he and his group saw this and other practices, and were worried about the country and the hard work of over 20 years which could easily be destroyed.

Al-Bid said they had to make many concessions so that Nasir Muhammad would hold the conference. He added that most of the elements that Nasir Muhammad depended upon were those that had been expelled from the party, and he made them leaders and high-ranking officials in the party.

Al-Bid said they made many concessions during the conference and elected Nasir Muhammad as secretary general, but insisted on reviving all party organisations, including the Central Committee and the Politbureau.

He said the Central Committee meeting scheduled for December was not held. He said the Central Committee was supposed to approve important matters, especially the state budget and the five-year plan, but Nasir Muhammad was always "running away" and making excuses for not holding any meeting. He said the Politbureau meeting was eventually held on January 9. Discussion of all subjects was not finished and it was agreed to continue on Jan. 13.

On that day, Al-Bid said, he arrived at the meeting about seven minutes past 10 am, and found that 'Ali 'Antar, Salih Muslih, 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, Salim Salih and 'Ali Sha'i' were present, but the president and those on his side were absent. He said they did not make anything of this and were talking to each other, when Nasir Muhammad's guard suddenly arrived at the meeting hall carrying a handbag which he put in Nasir Muhammad's place. Then another guard entered.

Al-Bid said he was talking with the defense minister, Salih Muslih, who was sitting beside him, when he heard machine gun shots. He hid under a chair and saw the guard firing at 'Ali 'Antar from the back. Al-Bid said he then used his own gun and the guard pulled back, and he took the chance of going to a nearby room.

In the meantime, other guards in the hall began shooting and there was much firing. Al-Bid said they tried to get out, but there was shooting even outside the meeting hall.

'Ali Sha'i' rushed towards the main gate firing his gun, but was killed instantly. Al-Bid said the guard who killed 'Ali 'Antar was killed by another Nasir Muhammad guard in order to cover the crime. He said that Salih Muslih was the first to die, followed by 'Ali Sha'i' and 'Ali 'Antar.

In the meantime, Al-Bid and his group saw a guard for 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and asked him to give them a machine gun. He agreed, saying that too many people were killed. Al-Bid said that he and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il each then left in a military vehicle.

Al-Bid said that too many officials and leading figures were killed, and their bodies were even mutilated. Al-Bid said this showed that these people were nothing but barbarians and power was their main objective.

Al-Bayd said that Nasir Muhammad began getting rid of his opponents in the social party several years ago but the main leaders were well known and very attached to the party. Al-Bid said they knew of his plans, but did not want to solve matters in an extraordinary way. He described the events as a catastrophe.

About the position of the Soviets during the fighting, he said that he himself contacted the Soviet ambassador in Aden after escaping from the attempt on his life. He added that the Soviets were shaken in the beginning. He said they asked for Soviet help to stop the tragedy and ensure no external interference. Al-Bid said that 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il was with him, and the Soviets promised to do what they asked, and tried to bring about a ceasefire. But the Nasir Muhammad group struck at the Soviet Embassy, and some of their experts were injured, but they did not interfere in the internal affairs.

Al-Bid said the Soviet position was very clear. They were with the regime and the party and not with individuals. They supported the continuity of the progressive regime and the socialist party in Yemen. The Soviets did not interfere with any forces, and were astonished at the events.

Speaking about the role of North Yemen, Al-Bid said that North Yemen's role was a positive and wise one. Al-Bid said he and his group feared that North Yemen may be pushed to create trouble, but their attitude was good despite the pressures. Al-Bid said they made contacts with North Yemen and took every case to avoid trouble.

Regarding the new leadership's policies, Al-Bid stressed that they had not formed a new regime. They were the same party with the same policies, and the party's latest communique stressed this. He said the party's policy was to achieve peaceful existence in the region and improve relations with all countries in the area. Al-Bid stressed they would continue on the same lines of the party and also stressed that the change in leaders did not mean a change in policies.

Al-Bid said that South Yemen was careful to improve its relations with Arab countries, particularly the GCC states. He added that Yemen had good relations with all GCC states, especially Kuwait and Saudi Arabia which had provided lots of help. Al-Bid denied that there were a number of extremists in the new party set-up in South Yemen and they would disturb relations with moderate countries. Al-Bid once again stressed that it was the same party and would follow the same policies.

He said that all mediation with Nasir Muhammad had stopped. Replying to a question whether the new South Yemen Government would ask for the extradition of Nasir Muhammad from any country he went to, Al-Bid said it was too early to say and they would wait to see where he went.

Yasin Sa'id Nu'man Receives Soviet Ambassador

GF121736 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers has expressed his satisfaction with the development of relations between our country and the friendly Soviet Union, praising its unlimited support to our country. This took place during his meeting today with Soviet Ambassador in Aden Comrade Vladislav Pelrovich Zhukov. During the meeting he reviewed with the ambassador bilateral relations and the means to develop and bolster them. The meeting was attended by Comrade (Denar Karivrof), economic adviser at the Soviet Embassy in Aden.

Foreign Ministry Holds Meeting; Al-Dali Attends

GF121848 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] A large meeting was held at the Foreign Ministry yesterday for the ministry workers. It was attended by Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister. During the meeting he talked about the details of the bloody conspiracy led by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his treacherous gang, which was designed to liquidate the historic leadership of the YSP and its experienced cadres to abolish its progressive course. He urged the workers to double efforts to carry out the talks set at the Foreign Ministry and to take an alert stance on work in a way to appropriately execute the YSP's foreign policy and the PDRY's great role on the Arab and international levels.

AL-ITTIHAD: Further on 'Ali Nasir Proposals

GF121432 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
12 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Al-Fatih al-Tijani dispatch from Addis Ababa]

[Excerpts] Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has announced that he has made five proposals to achieve a political solution to end the power struggle in the PDRY. He stated that the YAR, Ethiopia, and the USSR are trying to find a political settlement to the conflict. He added that he is waiting for a response to his proposals from these countries.

In an exclusive and comprehensive interview conducted since the events in Aden and to be published tomorrow by *AL-ITTIHAD*, he said that the proposals to settle the crisis are:

1. Invite all members of the YSP Central Committee to a meeting to judge who has been behind recent events, from 1984 and until the day of the coup on 13 January. The YSP Central Committee would then elect a new secretary general and name a new government.

2. Continue preparations to elect the People's Council and the Supreme People's Council. Thus, the council would elect the president of the state and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and also name the new government.

3. Form a military committee, from among individuals from both sides who did not participate in the events, to supervise the reorganization of the military and security establishments, to prevent the continuation of further destruction in the country,

and to remove the tanks and the heavy artillery which participated in the fighting outside the capital, Aden.

4. Put an end to the physical liquidation and arrests, noting in this regard that the number of the detainees has reached 15,000.

5. Form a committee including members from the northern part of the homeland, Ethiopia, the USSR, and from any other Arab country to supervise the implementationn of these proposals.

In his statement to *AL-ITTIHAD*, 'Ali Nasir affirmed that he still maintains his military might in the governorates and other locations inside. He said: They know this and know also that when we stopped the fighting we intended to stop more destruction in the country.

He categorically denied the presence of any arms that belong to him in the northern part or that he receives any military support from any party.

He said: We still possess arms. We have the will, the power, and the ability to fight. However, we want the country to avoid civil war and more destruction.

He stated that his forces managed to destroy 145 tanks during the first 9 days of the fighting in Aden, which indicates the scope of the conspiracy and the number of the tanks deployed in Aden's streets from 0700 on the morning of 13 January. He disclosed that the opposing forces used surface-to-surface LUNA-N missiles [as published] to attack and destroy naval forces. It also used 12 of the same missiles to attack the city of Zinjibar, the capital of Abyan. He added that what was most dangerous was that the opposing forces used rocket launcher R-R 17 [as published] with range of 350 km, and long-range missiles, which are part of the strategic weapons of the Yemeni Armed Forces and are to be used only in the event of war with other countries.

'Ali Nasir revealed that the coupist attempt was planned to take place on Thursday, 9 January by assassinating him at the center of the YSP Central Committee following the meeting of the YSP Political Bureau. He stated that they insisted on convening the meeting on that day, even though it was postponed by a request from the Council of Ministers and that Haydar al-'Attas, 'Ali Salim al-Bid, and Salih Muslih came to his house at 0100 in the morning to inform him of the importance of convening this meeting even for just an hour.

He stated that afterward, he discovered from security sources at the party Central Committee that armed elements entered the committee center and took cover inside the office of the committees and the departments of some members of the Political Bureau. He explained that he intentially postponed convening the session until after 1430 when he observed that Salih Muslih and 'Ali 'Antar left the meeting in turn more than once, which forced him to apologize for not chairing the meeting, instead leaving this responsibility for 'Ali 'Antar so that he could discover what was going on.

In his statement to *AL-ITTIHAD*, chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad ridiculed reports that he made contacts with Husayn Sha'al, and Muhammad 'Ali Haytham, members of the opposing national grouping. He said: We will never extend our hands to such as those. Our source of power is the YSP and the Yemeni people.

The interview by *AL-ITTIHAD* with Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad continued for 5 hours, during which he answered 31 questions on all of the political and military situations in the PDRY.

DFLP's Hawatimah Departs Aden 12 Feb

GF121714 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], left Aden today following a visit to our country which lasted several days. During his visit, Hawatimah held discussions with 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, and party leaders, which focused on the developments of the bloody events to which our country was subjected through the 13 January coupist conspiracy.

At the airport Hawatimah was seen off by Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, and the DFLP representative in Aden.

Sends Congratulatory Cable

GF121539 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, received a congratulatory cable from Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], on his appointment as secretary general of the YSP Central Committee. The cable reads as follows:

On behalf of the Central Committee and the strugglers and fighters of the DFLP and on my behalf, I greet and congratulate you on your appointment as the secretary general of the YSP Central Committee. The confidence of the fraternal YSP Central Committee in you is an expression of appreciation for your prominent role in the practical national and revolutionary march of the people of Democratic Yemen, and in the various stages of struggle since the liberation war against the British colonialist imperialism and the sultans until independence, as well as your effective contribution to the ideological and strategic experience to develop the revolution in the PDRY, particularly at the turning points in the life of the revolution, the party, and the country.

The party and constitutional legitimacy reaffirmed that it is the only means to overcome the great difficulties caused by the bloody 13 January catastrophe, which inflicted the gravest damages on the march of the party, the state, and the society and made the PDRY lose a group of its prominent leaders and cadres — foremost being the devoted martyrs 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, Salih Muslah Qasim, and 'Ali Sha'i' Hadi, members of the brave YSP Political Bureau. The bitter bloody experience encountered by the YSP and the Yemeni people and the defense, military, and security establishments of the country and the popular militia, as well as the Arab and internationalist reputation of the PDRY's experience, affirms the historic and constant importance of the Political Bureau's and Central Committee's settling of differences in the party's organizations in June 1985 and its principles in applying the party's program, charters, and resolutions and the country's constitutional laws. It also affirms that the means of the national and revolutionary party to resolve any complications arising in the course of the development of the revolution and party lies in the collective party and juristic organizations and establishments.

We in the DFLP have great confidence that the party and the struggling masses around it will be able to overcome the current economic, social, and organizational difficulties with the spirit of unity of party, state, and society, with the spirit of comprehensive national responsibility toward the children of the party and revolution, and from the position of fierce struggle to defend the homeland and prevent foreign reactionary and imperialist interventions, elements counter to the revolution.

From a position of histroic brotherhood during difficult circumstances the DFLP has affirmed to our friends in the YSP and to the Yemeni people its total support to the revolution in the PDRY and to the joint struggle against all kinds of foreign intervention.

Today The front of the imperialist, reactionary, and Zionist enemies is trying to use the opportunity to throw poisonous arrows at the scientific socialist and proleterian internationalist concepts. We are confident that the party and the revolution in the PDRY will resist this poisonous campaign with all principled relentlessness and will insist on applying the party's line and the program of the national democratic revolution and socialist concepts. The DFLP will be at your side in the battle to defend scientific socialism and proleterian internationalism, which is the basic weapon for the revolution's development and for the resumption of the course of social progress to serve the masses.

The DFLP and the struggling Palestinians masses are confident that the PDRY will continue its steadfast march as a prominent fortress for liberation and progress in Arab life and as a stable prop for the right of our people to return to self-determination, and to an independent state and for abolishing the Jordan agreement and clearing the road to restore the PLO's unity on the basis of the organization's program and the Aden-Algeria agreement, which is the right basis to restore the unity of the PLO, to implement democratic reformation in the organization's establishments and to construct a collective leadership, so that the PLO resumes its historic role to achieve the Palestinian and Arab rights within the framework of an international conference, to be participated in by the Soviet Union, the great friend of our Arab nation, as well as the PLO, with an independent delegation.

Immortality to the loyal martyrs of the YSP. Glory to the strategic alliance between the YSP and the DFLP.

Congratulatory Messages Sent on Iranian Anniversary

Al-'Attas, Prime Minister Message

GF101331 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Brothers Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, have sent a joint congratulatory message to Brothers 'Ali Khamene'i, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Mir Hoseyn Musavi, on the anniversary of the Iranian revolution and the anniversary of the foundation of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The message says:

We are pleased to extend to you our warmest congratulations and fraternal greetings coupled with our profoundest, sincere wishes to you personally for good health and happiness, to the friendly Iranian people for continued progress and prosperity, and for the fraternal relations between our two friendly countries and peoples' further development.

Foreign Minister's Message

GF101401 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, has sent a congratulatory cable to Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the anniversary of the Iranian revolution and the foundation of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He wished him good health and happiness and the friendly Iranian people further progress and prosperity. He also wished further progress for relations between the two countries.

YAR

Cabinet, Consultative Council Discuss PDRY, Gulf War

GF121815 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] This morning Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, chaired a comprehensive meeting, which included brother members of the Consultative Council General Commitee and the Cabinet. During the meeting they discussed and reviewed developments in the southern part of the homeland, recent development in the Iraq-Iran war, and a number of Arab and international issues.

The participants of the comprehensive meeting extensively discussed the painful events which have occurred in the southern part of the homeland and evaluated the results of these events. A number of decisions were adopted affirming the correctness and positivness of the firm, principled, national stances regarding these events, and the need to keenly and loyally act to contain all the problems which were the result of these events and to contain all its dangers. The participants of the comprehensive meeting evaluated the results of the moves of our country and all of the fraternal and the friendly countries in this regard.

Concerning the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war and the recent attack by Iranian forces against Iraqi territory, the participants of the comprehensive meeting affirmed our country's and our people's support for Iraq and the Iraqi people in confronting the operations of the attack against their territory and their right to defend it, and denounced this attack which aimed at crossing the international border, occupying Iraqi territory, and continuing to undermine the great powers and capabilities of both fraternal countries as well as at the killing of thousands of both peoples in such a destructive and losing war which has been rejected by all Arab and Islamic peoples and by peace-loving countries. The participants of the comprehensive meeting also affirmed our country's adherence to the joint Arab Defense Pact and called upon all fraternal Arab countries to support fraternal Iraq in implementation of the contents of this treaty which was signed by all Arab countries. They also called on the international community to quickly intervene to put an end to this war, which represents a great danger to the security and the stability of the region and international security and peace, and for the conflict to be solved by peaceful means.

Interior Minister Barakat Returns From Morocco

GF121911 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Minister of Interior Brother Dr 'Abdallah Barakat returned to Sanaa this evening after participating in the fourth session of the Arab Interior Ministers Council held in Casablanca from 4 to 7 February.

Tabah Talks Resume in Herzliyya 12 Feb

NC121352 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Negotiations between the Egyptian and Israeli delegations on drawing up the terms of reference for arbitration on the Tabah problem and on improving bilateral relations resumed in Herzliyya this morning. A U.S. delegation was also present.

Dr Nabil al-'Arabi and Avraham Tamir, the heads of the Egyptian and Israeli delegations respectively, expressed the hope that the current round of talks will produce positive results and remove the obstacles to reaching an agreement on Tabah and other issues pertaining to bilateral relations.

Two subcommittees will hold talks on the sidelines of these negotiations. One subcommittee will draft the terms of reference for arbitration on Tabah, and the other will review bilateral relations.

Mubarak Urges U.S. 'Flexibility' on PLO

NC122043 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — The Egyptian magazine *AL-MUSAWAR* reports that President Husni Mubarak recently sent a message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. President Mubarak called on the United States to display flexibility in its request that the PLO recognize UN Security Council Resolution 242 without preconditions, in order to attend the international Middle East peace conference as an equal partner.

The magazine says in its Friday edition that President Mubarak proposed to President Reagan that the organization's recognition of Resolution 242 should be conditional on the acceptance of the PLO right to self-determination, as part of a confederal union with Jordan. The Jordanian-Palestinian agreement proposes a confederation among Jordan, the West Bank, and Gaza, following the Israeli withdrawal.

AL-MUSAWWAR points out that in the coming few days Cairo will witness a summit between President Husni Mubarak and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. This will be followed by a meeting between President Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan. The magazine notes a recent telephone conversation between the Egyptian and Jordanian leaders.

It is unlikely that a tripartite Egyptian-Palestinian-Jordanian summit will be held at present, according to the magazine. Cairo would not convene such a summit now, unless King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat would agree on a compromise formula, which would guarantee the summit's success.

AL-MUSAWWAR says that 'Arafat wants to explain to Cairo his views regarding the suspension of his recent negotiations with King Husayn in Amman. They discussed a way for the PLO to accept Resolution 242 without preconditions. However, the organization thinks it is necessary to link its recognition of the resolution with the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, as a basis for resolving the Middle East problem.

Jordanian Information Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC121641 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — Muhammad al-Khatib, the Jordanian minister of information, arrived in Cairo this afternoon for a 2-day visit at the invitation of his Egyptian counterpart, Safwat al-Sharif.

In an arrival statement at the airport, the Jordanian minister noted that a treaty of cooperation between the media of both countries will be signed, as will a 3-year executive protocol covering the accord. The Jordanian minister of information went on to say that the purpose of his trip was to increase bilateral coordination in the various fields of information, to work for the supreme interests of the Arab motherland, and to defend its leading causes. He pointed out that the treaty is one of the products of our comprehensive bilateral cooperation, and added that direct and continual meetings of Arab ministers are the best way to assert the Arab identity and lay a true and effective foundation.

Safwat al-Sharif, who was at Cairo airport to receive the Jordanian minister of information, said that this visit was one in a series of trips involving the two countries and dealing with questions of politics and information. He continued by stating that the promotion of television networks for both states via Aqaba and Tabah would be examined. He declared that President Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan have already discussed this matter.

Safwat al-Sharif added that the exchange of radio and television programs between the two countries will begin. This is in addition to cooperation in the field of information at home and abroad. A number of meetings between delegations from both countries will be held to exchange expertise.

Received by Mubarak

NC131012 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0925 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Jordanian Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib this morning. The session was attended by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif. The Jordanian minister arrived in Cairo yesterday on a 2-day visit to Egypt. During his stay, he will sign an agreement on information cooperation, as well as an executive protocol for this accord.

Foreign Ministry 'Source' on Peace Process

NC121644 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] A responsible source in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has declared that at this time the ongoing Middle East contacts require all peace-loving parties to make more efforts to give impetus to the peace process.

The source expressed the Foreign Ministry's appreciation for the statement by the French external relations minister stressing France's support for President Husni Mubarak's Strasbourg proposal. President Mubarak called for the formation of a European liaison group to promote the peace process in the Middle East. France advocated this proposal during the EEC foreign ministers' meetings.

The source also noted the Foreign Ministry's gratitude for the remarks by the FRG minister of state for foreign affairs on the FRG policy in the Middle East.

The source said that the statements by the two European officials reflect the French and the FRG conviction of the need to reach quickly a just and comprehensive Middle East peace that will safeguard the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and guarantee the security and stability of the states of the region.

The source stressed that EC sponsorship of President Mubarak's proposal would clarify greatly the European stand on the issue. The source added that practical and specific measures would contribute to just and comprehensive peace, at a time when the Middle East is in need of every sincere effort in support of the peace process.

'Abd al-Majid Meets With Cluverius 12 Feb

NC121345 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Watt Cluverius, deputy to Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Richard Murphy. U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Nicholas Veliotes attended the meeting. During the talks, current developments were comprehensively reviewed in light of the ongoing consultations and efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive solution in the Middle East. The discussions also dealt with bilateral relations.

Ghali, Soviet Ambassador Discuss Disarmament

NC121743 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Belonogov.

They discussed disarmament and the current Soviet-U.S. talks at the meeting.

Opposition Says 'Brightstar' Maneuvers Canceled

NC130915 Paris AFP in English 0909 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, Feb 13 (AFP) — Egypt has decided to cancel its regular "Brightstar" manoeuvres with the United States, the Wafd opposition has reported in its weekly magazine.

The magazine, *AL-WAFD*, said the decision was taken in the light of the U.S. interception in October of an Egyptian plane carrying the Palestinian hijackers of an Italian cruise ship, on which an American had been killed, and of a reduction in U.S. aid to Egypt. The magazine said that a January visit here by the U.S. Naval chief of staff, Admiral William Crowe, was to discuss the joint manoeuvres, and that Cairo had refused to fix dates for the exercises.

The U.S. Embassy here declined to comment today.

Prime Minister Meets With UK Secretary in London

For Cairo MENA reportage on Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi's 12 February meeting in London with UK Parliamentary Undersecretary for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Tim Renton, see the United Kingdon section of the 13 February Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

Saddam Husayn Returns After Army Corps Inspection

JN130630 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0617 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] I have just received the following:

Leader President Saddam Husayn has returned to Baghdad after an inspection tour of the front in the VII Army Corps sector.

During the visit, the leader president learned about the battle proceedings and the measures taken by the competent commands to confront the aggression. He met with members of the Armed Forces General Command at the front, field commanders, and the commander of the VII Army Corps. The leader president was reassured about these measures and our brave fighters' iron will.

The field commander and fighters assured the president that they will carry good tidings to the Iraqis day after day until the last aggressor soldier is killed or driven out of our territory.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Shatt al-'Arab Enemy Forces Sieged

JN130921 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0858 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Basra, 13 Feb (INA) — The INA mission in the VII Army Corps sector today said that the Iraqi units have completed their siege of the Iranian enemy forces that crossed the Shatt al-'Arab, north of the Arab Gulf.

The mission noted that the Iraqi artillery forces and Air Force are now isolating the Iranian units between Shatt al-'Arab and the Iraqi forces and that all their supplies have been cut off. These forces are continuing to destroy these Iranian units.

The mission said that the Iranian units are now at the mercy of the destructive Iraqi strikes and that the fate of these units will be total annihilation.

The INA mission noted that the field commanders in the VII Army Corps are determined to crush the remnants of the Iranian forces, which tried to desecrate Iraqi soil.

Fall of Umm Qasr Denied

JN121837 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — The Iraqi information minister has strongly denied Iran's claims that it has seized the southern port of Umm Qasr. Latif Nusayyif Jasim said that by such lies Iran tries to cover up its defeat.

The minister also refuted Iranian claims that Iraq has used chemical weapons in the fighting, indicating that the Iranians resort to such claims whenever their forces sustain large losses in the war. These claims, he added, are an attempt to cover up the Iranian forces' retreat in the VII Army Corps sector.

Iranian Downing of Aircraft Denied

JN121349 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1332 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims on the downing of an Iraqi aircraft. The spokesman told INA this afternoon that all Iraqi aircraft which had carried out combat missions returned safely to base.

Communique No 2,114 Issued

JN121809 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1708 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Communique No 2,114 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 12 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With the relentless determination of men who believe in God, who, therefore, increased their courage and guidance, our valiant Armed Forces continue their glorious defense of Iraq's territory, might, civilization, history, and people's accomplishments, as well as of the security and happiness of its sons. These glorious days are recording in the annals of history the fact that Iraq will remain stronger and braver than its heretic enemies in confronting the intrigues of the treacherous ones.

The developments in the conflict at the battlefront also confirm that by their aggression our enemies have themselves chosen their end at the hands of Iraq's men and that their treachery has been transformed into death which is harvesting their remnants. We pledge that every foot which has trodden on the land of civilization will be smashed. The shore and coast remain yours, O sons of the best nation that came to life.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. After our valiant forces foiled all night long the enemy's repeated attempts to break the siege imposed on its forces, a heroic force from our formations in the VII Army Corps sector launched a resolute offensive on the left flank of the enemy troops and forced them to retreat several kilometers in a disorganized manner, sustaining massive losses in men, weapons, and equipment. Meanwhile, our forces continued to put pressure on the enemy's right flank, inflicting massive losses on its forces with the aim of destroying them.

2. Our gigantic Air Force continued to mete out the Iraqi people's just punishment to the aggressors. The brave eagles attacked enemy positions, supply lines, and concentrations inside their territory, spreading death among their ranks and burning with the fire of truth the rottenness of falsehood and its followers.

Our Air Force carried out 348 air raids in the III and VII Army Corps sectors today. It also destroyed a large enemy maritime target and destroyed in a violent raid the monitoring station at Khvor Maleh. Our brave eagles returned safely to base under God's care and protection after carrying out their duties.

3. An enemy force estimated at an infantry brigade attempted to approach our forward units in the III Army Corps sector east of Basra. Our hero fighters confronted it with all types of weapons and destroyed the bulk of the force. The rest fled, chased by the fire of our brave artillery. The enemy's confirmed losses in the III Army Corps sector, in addition to what was reported in Communique No 2,113 for 11 February 1986, amounted to the following:

a. Fourteen people killed.

b. One tank destroyed.

c. Nine boats destroyed.

d. Two armored personnel carriers damaged.

e. Some serviceable weapons captured.

f. Four ammunition dumps destroyed.

4. Groups of enemy troops tried to approach our forward positions in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan this morning. Our brave men fired at them, inflicting large human losses. The rest fled, pursued by our artillery fire.

5. The cavaliers of the helicopter gunships continued their honorable contribution to this heroic epic of our forces, destroying several enemy troop concentrations and giving good support to our ground forces in 184 combat missions, after which the cavaliers returned safely to base, praised be God.

6. An enemy F-4 plane tried to penetrate our international border at 1110 [0810 GMT] today. Our brave air defense men fired at it and managed to shoot it down inside our territory. God bless the men who are recording glorious deeds during this age. God bless them while they are giving the most splendid example in defending the homeland. Their aim will always be the annihilation of all aggressors, and none of them will be rescued, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 February 1986

Commanders Interviewed

JN131150 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Al-Basrah, Southern Iraq, 13 Feb (INA) — INA war correspondents in the VII Army Corps sector this morning said that the Iranian forces, which are besieged from the right and from the left, and with the deep waters of the Shatt al-'Arab behind them, have found themselves in the arena of inevitable death.

The correspondents said the field plans for the final annihilation of the Iranian forces that entered the area of (Ra's al-Bishah) are proceeding accorately and perfectly. The field commanders asserted to the INA correspondents that the results will surprise the world because no individual will escape this inevitable death. One commander said: In last year's battles, the Iranians entered the Al-Hawizah marshes and reached various small isolated Iraqi villages in the middle of the marshes, but how long were they there and what was their fate? He went on to say: The result then was around 70,000 Iranians killed and great numbers captured.

Another military commander said that the Iranian enemy is only concerned about reaching a particular area on the battlefront and when this is achieved one way or another, they are not concerned about the results and the heavy human losses inflicted on the Iranian ranks. The field commanders agreed that the operations underway are of a new type in terms of results and military action.

The INA correspondents in the operations' area pointed out that the unlimited great self-confidence of the Iraqi fighters and of their field commands give complete assurance about the military situation and strengthens the conviction that the results are undoubtedly decided in favor of the Iraqi forces and that there will be a great disaster for Iran.

Arab League 7-Member Committee Meeting Held on War

League Secretary General Arrives

JN122052 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2012 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived here tonight to participate in the meeting of the 7-member committee charged with following up the Iraq-Iran war.

In a statement to INA, Klibi said: The 7-member committee, meeting under the current circumstances in Bagdhad, is an expression of our countries' solidarity with and desire to stand by the side of Iraq which has responded to all peace calls. He added that the 7-member committee's mission is that of peace, indicating that this committee is trying to end the war and establish peace [words indistinct]. He praised the Iraqi people's steadfastness and said: I am confident [words indistinct].

Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives

JN121548 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1532 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Baghdad today to participate in the emergency Arab League 7-member committee meeting on the Iraq-Iran war which will be held here later.

He was received at the airport by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Arrives

JN121525 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Baghdad at noon today to participate in the emergency meeting of the Arab 7-member committee to be held in Baghdad later today. He was received by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Kuwaiti ambassador in Baghdad.

YAR Foreign Minister Arrives

JN121651 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, YAR deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Baghdad this evening to participate in the meetings of the seven-member committee in charge of following up the developments of the Iraq-Iran war. The Yemeni minister was received by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Yemeni ambassador in Baghdad.

Saddam Husayn Receives Ministers

JN131052 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received the members of the seven-member Arab League committee entrusted with following up Iraq-Iran war developments. During the meeting Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi briefed the president on measures the committee had taken to deal with the situation precipitated by the new Iranian aggression against Iraqi territory. The committee said it will take measures and launch political activities in solidarity with Iraq in legitimate defense of its sovereignty, based on Arab summit and Arab League resolutions regarding the Iranian aggression against Iraq, and guided by the Arab League Charter and the collective Arab Defense Pact.

The president said that strong Iraq, which has fought Iran for 6 years, will be able to crush the aggression and purge the Arab land of the filth of the aggressors, relying on the determination of its sons and the assistance of its brothers.

The committee members expressed warm greetings on Iraq's victory in this just battle, affirming that Iraq's victory is a victory for the Arab nation. The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the president's secretary.

Tariq 'Aziz Receives Ministers

JN121939 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1840 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here tonight with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister; Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister; 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, YAR deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Tahir al-Masri, Jordanian foreign minister. During the meeting, they reviewed the latest developments in the Iranian aggression against Iraq and the Arab nation's responsibility toward the new developments, in addition to affairs related to the meeting of the 7-member Arab committee formed by the Arab League Council to follow up developments in the Iraq- Iran war.

Assembly Speaker Cables Parliaments, ICU on War

JN121649 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has sent cables to the heads of parliaments in Jordan, Algeria, Morocco, Lebanon, Somalia, Djibouti, Kuwait, Egypt, the PDRY, Tunisia, and Palestine regarding the dimensions of the new Iranian aggression against Iraq. In his cables, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi affirmed that the Iraqi Armed Forces were and still are lying in wait to repulse the aggression which is aimed at occupying Iraqi territory and imposing hegemony on the Arab Gulf region.

He urged the heads of the Arab parliaments to condemn this aggression on the basis of pan-Arab ties, commitments, and Arab resolutions and charters that call for supporting Iraq while it is defending Arab sovereignty, freedom, and dignity. He said that this phase makes it incumbent on everyone to rise to the level of the historical responsibility. He affirmed that although the battle is being waged on several fronts, it is a common battle and that Arab solidarity, integration, and unity is the only way to defeat the designs of aggression and expansion.

Dr Sa'dun Hammadi also sent a cable to 'Abd al-Rahman Burawi, secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union, urging him to condemn the treacherous Iranian aggression and affirm effective soldiarity with Iraq in repulsing and defeating this aggression. He urged Arab governments and parliaments to champion and support the will of good, right, and peace, represented by Iraq's sound course and magnificent and heroic capability and called for the mobilization of Arab public opinion in this regard. He affirmed that pan-Arab security is indivisible and that the Arab energies are called upon today to unite in defending the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

Dr Sa'dun Hammadi also sent a cable to IPU Secretary General (Hans Sturcken) in which he explained the dimensions of the new aggression against Iraq and the Iranian regime's ambitions aimed at occupying Iraqi territory and imposing its hegemony over the Arab Gulf region. Dr Hammadi recalled Iraq's constant responses to calls for peace and for ending the war which have always been rejected by the Iranian side, thus demonstrating the highest degree of contempt for the international will. He urged the IPU secretary general to condemn and denounce this rancorous aggression in accordance with the principles and resolutions of the IPU conferences. He also called on him to distribute the cable to the various parliamentary branches of the IPU.

RCC Vice Chairman Reassures Kuwaiti Heir Apparent

JN121913 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, this evening telephoned 'Izzat Ibrahim, RCC vice chairman, inquiring about the situation at the battlefront.

'Izzat Ibrahim emphasized to the Kuwaiti heir apparent the strength of the Iraqi position and the determination of the Iraqi Armed Forces to destroy the aggressor forces and safeguard Iraq's independence and sovereignty.

Hubayqah Responds to East Beirut Arrests

NC121430 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] In response to the arrests of a group of citizens in East Beirut, Elie Hubayqah has made the following statement:

Samir Ja'Ja' has recently made a point of broadcasting base accusations about terrorist cells in East Beirut in order to justify the campaign of repression and arrests launched within the ranks of the Lebanese Forces fighters and in civilian circles. These repressive actions have no justification except the fear of Ja'Ja' and his group that the young men in the Lebanese Forces will reject the attempts of the warmongerers of the Al-Jumayyil-Ja'Ja' party to force them into suicidal actions. These mass arrests, together with other extraordinary actions such as the detention of women and children, will not allow them to carry out any plans against the wishes of the Christian people who, since the creation of Lebanon, have always been used to making up their own minds in a free and democratic atmosphere. Those who, on 15 January, did not hesitate to shed the blood of Christian youth in the name of freedom and democracy, today resort to the crudest methods of arrest and repression of the young men of the Lebanese Forces. We see supporters of Bashir being expelled, pictures of Bashir being torn up, and the Lebanese Forces' fighters being put in the prisons of Al-Qattarah and Al-Fidar for no reason, other than the groundless pretexts and excuses invented by Ja'Ja' and Al-Jumayyil out of fear of the steadfastness of these young men.

Citizens, companions, I salute your steadfastness in the face of attempts to persuade you to commit suicide and know well that you will not be cowed by repression. We will retaliate against its perpetrators. I vow to persevere along the road to peace, for the sake of a strong society and a unified Lebanon. In the final analysis, it is your steadfastness that will save the nation.

Phalangist Leader's Secretary Reportedly Killed

NC121830 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0173 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] As part oF the killings and the struggle for power in the eastern area, gunmen belonging to Samir Ja'Ja's forces last night broke in and assassinated the secretary of Phalangist Party leader Elie Karanah in his house in Sinn al-Fil. The situation grew more tense and large numbers of gunmen appeared.

Lebanese Forces Reveal Details of 'Terrorist' Plan

NC121850 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Statement by a "security source" of the Lebanese Forces on 12 February]

[Text] To supplement the information which we provided yesterday, we announce today that some of the people detained yesterday morning have confessed that they carried out terrorist sabotage inside the eastern areas and that they were ready to prepare for an incursion on the Al-Hadath-Al-Murayjah line. This operation would have proceeded as follows:

1. People would have infiltrated across the line with the collusion of former members of the Lebanese Forces Security Department, who are responsible for defending this front.

2. Gunmen of the West Beirut organizations and parties would have been brought in and given control of the front lines in the Al-Hadath area.

From the confessions of the detainees, it appears that the purpose of this operation was to confuse the security apparatus and to carry out a psychological and propaganda war which, it was hoped, would lead to instability and insecurity.

This scheme did not surprise the security authorities, who monitored it for more than 1 week until they uncovered all the details. Therefore, these confessions only confirm security information.

Our security authorities regard today's explosion at the Al-Sanawbarah locality, in 'Ayn al-Rummanah, as an attempt to compensate for the discovery of this scheme.

Elie Hubayqah, in his emotional statements, did not deny his involvement in terrorist operations in the eastern areas. His remarks confirm the extent of frustration he, his followers, and those who deal with him have suffered.

Confessions are still being made, and we immediately will announce them in full, out of eagerness to ensure security.

The security services will remain vigilant to protect and safeguard the citizens.

Dany Sham'un Criticizes Syria, Israel

NC121912 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] National Liberal Party Chairman Dany Sham'un has said that Lebanon's crisis will be solved in the near future through an accord among its people. He added that his opinion was based on local and regional considerations.

Sham'un launched a strong attack on Syria, accusing it of applying military and terrorist pressure to complicate the Lebanese crisis.

He also assailed Israel and its actions in the south, which seek to reduce Lebanon's sovereignty.

The Liberal Party chairman criticized those who are boycotting the regime, expressing his belief that they are boycotting the people and, as such, are responsible for their ordeal.

He rejected the idea of removing the president by force or military pressure, and said that the majority of Lebanese would decide on that.

Birri Meets Communist Party Secretary

NC121315 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri received Lebanese Communist Party Secretary General George Hawi and party Political Bureau member Karim Muruwwah at 1300 today. They were accompanied by Muhsin Dallul. Current conditions were discussed.

Minister Birri had received a delegation earlier in the morning representing the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The delegation consisted of Political Bureau members Abu 'Adnan, Fahd Sulayman, and Salih Zaydan.

After the meeting, Abu 'Adnan made a statement in which he said: We discussed with His Excellency Minister Birri and his comrades in the Amal Movement leadership all developments in the Arab arena. Our talks dealt mainly with the intensive ferocious campaign which U.S. imperialism and Zionism are waging against all progressive and liberation forces in the Arab area and against all the nationalist and Palestinian forces in Lebanon. We also discussed the conditions in Lebanon and the Zionist onslaught in South Lebanon. This onslaught is part of Israel's plan to conceal the real political situation in Lebanon in an effort to salvage the 17 May agreement one way or another.

Abu 'Adnan continued: We also discussed bilateral relations. This is a particularly important matter at the present time, when rumors are ripe. The object of these rumors is to create tension again, so as to distract attention from what is happening in the eastern area and focus it on the Palestinian camps. It was with great satisfaction that we noted the nationalist forces' awareness of the true objectives of the suspect media campaign and of the need to raise the level of vigilance and caution to foil its aims.

Minister Birri then received the Spanish Ambassador in Lebanon. They discussed recent developments, particularly the repeated Israeli annexation of land in the south.

Communist Party Accuses Amal of Torture

NC120655 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] A Lebanese Communist Party source has stressed that the Amal Movement has not yet released the communists it detained. A source close to the Amal Movement has said that the purpose of this detention is to prevent the communists from assisting the Palestinians in the south.

A statement issued by the communist party's branch in the south accuses the Amal Movement of launching a large-scale campaign of arrests in the Al-Nabatiyah area, involving a number of the party's members and cadres. The statement also claims that Amal has subjected the detainees to brutal torture. It says that the campaign has reached a level that makes it different from past harassments of the so-called national resistance, communists, Ba'thists, nationalists, Nasirites, and religious groups. The communist party called on Minister Nabih Birri to form a committee to investigate these arrests and, particularly, the torture allegations.

Calls For Detainees Release

NC130741 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] According to reports from the southern suburb, tension continues to reign in certain areas of Al-Shiyah, B'ir al-'Abd, As'ad al-As'ad, and 'Abd al-Karim al-Khalil. Meanwhile, the Amal and Communist Party leaderships have met within the last few hours in an attempt to bring about the release of the communists abducted by the Amal Movement since last Sunday.

Following his meeting with Minister Nabih Birri yesterday, Communist Party Secretary General George Hawi requested that a similar meeting be held with the participation of all nationalist forces. Hawi called for serious investigations into the incidents which have taken place in order to prevent their recurrence.

Reports indicate that Hawi has asked Birri to look into the abduction of communist personnel in the south and in Beirut as soon as possible. He said that the results of these investigations should be revealed at a press conference to be attended by media representatives in West Beirut and foreign correspondents. Hawi affirmed that he will not allow anyone to detain communists, adding that his party will retaliate violently in the event any party members are held.

Reports on West Beirut Situation Refuted

NC120709 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Security sources have expressed surprise at reports disseminated by private radios claiming that incidents affecting security have been taking place in west Beirut. The sources said that the reports are part of the campaign being waged by the opponents of the tripartite agreement to conceal what is going on in their areas.

Officials representing the Amal Movement, the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], the Palestinian National Salvation Front, and the communist party have categorically dismissed all allegations that there is tension in various areas, particularly in the camps. They said that these tendentious campaigns have been refuted not only theoretically but also through the measures put into effect by Palestinian and party officials.

Minister Nabih Birri declared that steps have been taken on the ground to strengthen the alliance between the Amal Movement and the PSP. He reiterated his principled commitment to coordinating efforts with the Palestinian brothers.

Organization of Oppressed Claims Kidnapping

NC121516 Paris AFP in English 1505 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Beirut, Feb 12 (AFP) — The kidnapping of a Middle East Airlines steward on Sunday was today claimed by the "Organisation of the Oppressed on Earth," which has murdered two Lebanese Jews and says it is holding two others.

A statement sent to a Western news agency here said that Lebanese airline steward George Asmar, who was kidnapped along the road to Beirut Airport, belongs to the Phalangist Al-Kata'ib Party's security forces and is an Israeli spy.

The organisation said: "We are not holding George Asmar because he is Christian, but because he is a spy." It alleged he had threatened his airline colleagues during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

The organisation claimed last November to have kidnapped four Lebanese Jews and at the end of December murdered two of them — Kohen Halaq, aged 39 and Yitzhaq Tarrab, 70.

The group is demanding the release of 300 Lebanese prisoners from Al-Khiyam prison near the Israeli-Lebanese border.

Further Reportage on Countrywide Fighting

Army Shells Mountain Positions

NC121949 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Ra's al-Nab', Bishara al-Khuri, and Al-Tayyunah are coming under sniper fire from Sodeco, Al-Birjawi, and Dar al-Kitab. Hill 888 and 'Aytat in the mountain area are being hit by machinegun and rocket fire from army positions in Al-Khazzanat, the Salam Palace, and the hotel district in Suq al-Gharb.

As for the Upper al-Matn, fighting resumed along the Al-Dawwar combat line this afternoon when the Army shelled nationalist positions in the area. Those manning these posts were forced to deal with the army in order to silence the sources of the fire.

In the south, the combat lines of Lib'a-Kafr Falus-'Ayn al-Mir are tense once more. They were the scene of fighting in which artillery and machinegun fire was exchanged between nationalist positions and those held by Lahd's militia.

Beirut, South Fighting Detailed

NC122112 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Rockets and machineguns were used in the fighting that took place on the combat lines in Ra's al-Nab' and the commercial markets in Beirut tonight. Explosive sniper bullets reached neighborhoods in the capital a short while ago. Tension predominates on the combat lines in Lib'a, 'Ayn al-Mir', and Kafr Falus in eastern Sidon where intermittent clashes involving light- and medium-caliber machineguns are taking place.

The Popular Liberation Army traded fire with agent Lahd forces positioned on the 'Ayn al-Mir-Lib'a-Kafr Falus line between 2000 and 2200 today. Hospital sources reported that three members of the Popular Liberation Army were killed and four others were wounded. The martyrs are Muhammad al-Hakawati, 'Amir 'Akkawi, and 'Ali 'Abd al-Hamid. The wounded are Sa'd al-Hariri, Muhammad al-Huli, Ahmad al-Baba, and Ibrahim Fathallah.

Strike Force Starts Patrols

NC131056 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The security situation in the mountain areas became tense this morning. 'Alayh and Dahr al-Wahsh came under machinegun and rocket fire. In the meantime, along the Sodeco, Al-Primo, Ra's al-Nab', and markets combat lines, gunfire and rockets were exchanged early today. The crossing points between the two parts of the capital are passable.

In another development, the strike force command in West Beirut issued a statement today, saying that in every case where the driver of a car fails to produce official documents establishing his ownership, the vehicle will be impounded. The strike force will also confiscate all weapons that are not officially licensed.

The strike force instituted patrols in various streets and quarters of the capital this morning to curb tendentious attempts to strike at the national consensus.

Israeli Gunboats off South Coast

NC121416 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Israeli warplanes flew over the area of Sidon and broke the sound barrier at 1350 today. They also carried out two mock raids over the camps area. The Israeli planes continued to circle for 15 minutes before returning to the occupied territory.

Israeli gunboats were also seen opposite the coast between Al-Zahrani and Al-Naqurah. They are still there.

ASL Casualties From Land Mine

NC121336 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] According to security reports from the south, tension prevailed along the Kafr Falus combat lines following this morning's clashes between the Army of southern Lebanon [ASL] and extremist Palestinian and religious organizations. It has also been reported that some centers in the areas of Jba', Jarju', 'Arab Salim, Kafr Rumman, and Habush have been subjected to a number of shells fired from Sujud and Tura.

According to other reports, a land mine went off this morning on the Al-Tiri-Bint Jubayl road while an ASL vehicle was passing. As a result of the blast, soldier Marun Yusuf Matar was killed and tree other soldiers from the town of 'Ayn Ibil were wounded. A remote control explosive charge was detonated on the Yatar road while an ASL patrol was passing. No casualties have been reported. The ASL later carried out a wide-scale combing operation.

Khaddam Receives Lebanese Deputy Al-Khayyir

JN121241 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Lebanese deputy Salih al-Khayyir at 1215 today. The talks dealt with the Lebanese situation.

Foreign Minister AL-Shar' Receives U.S. Senator

JN121908 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Information Minister Faruq al-Shar' received U.S. Senator Charles Mathias this evening. Dr Ahmad Saqr, director of the U.S. Department at the Foreign Ministry, and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Damascus attended the meeting. Talks revolved around the current situation in the region.

During the meeting, the minister expressed Syria's strong discontent with the U.S. Administration's use of the veto in the UN Security Council against the draft resolution condemning the recent Israeli piracy. Mathias expressed his condemnation of and objection to this Israeli act. The need to hold an international conference to find a just, comprehensive solution to the Middle East issue was stressed.

Interior Minister Announces Election Results

JN121839 Damascus SANA in Arabic
1535 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Damascus, 12 Feb (SANA) — At a press conference here today, Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash announced the results of the People's Assembly elections for its fourth legislative term. At the beginning of the conference, the interior minister made a statement stressing that polling took place in an atmosphere of popular enthusiasm and freedom. He explained that no security disturbance was reported and that nothing disrupted the process of elections.

He said that the atmosphere of trust and enthusiasm witnessed at the polling stations is unequivocal proof of our masses' awareness. He referred to the importance of the participation of Syrian women in running for the People's Assembly and the election of 18 women, as there were only 12 women in the previous session.

The interior minister announced the election of the Progressive National Front candidates in all electoral districts. They were returned unopposed in the districts of Dar'a, Al-Raqqah, Idlib, and Al-Suwayda', and the Damascus rural area. He said taht this result is a true embodiment of our masses' belief in the principles and bases the political leadership adopts on domestic, Arab, and international levels. It is also a confirmation of the firmness of our internal front and the strength of our national unity in the face of imperialist and Zionist challenges.

Replying to a question, the interior minister explained that according to the Constitution's provisions, the People's Assembly will be held 2 weeks after the announcement of results. He said that the voting percentage is high. About 2 million voters participated in the pollings, that is, the participation percentage is 42 percent.

On the representation of progressive parties in the Progressive National Front, the interior minister said that Bathists occupy 129 seats, that is, 66 percent of the seats; the Unionist Socialists 8 seats; the Socialist Union 9 seats; the Arab Socialists 5 seats; the Communists 9 seats; and independent candidates 35 seats.

The number of People' Assembly members is 195 representing 15 electoral districts. The Assembly's term lasts for 4 years.

Reportage on Talks With Egypt on Tabah Issue

Delegations Discuss 'Secondary' Issues

TA121620 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The talks between the Israeli and Egyptian directors general resumed this morning in Herzliyya. Our correspondent reports that an understanding was reached on a number of secondary technical points related to the formulation of the Tabah arbitral comprimis. The atmosphere in the talks is excellent and they will probably be extended some 2 or 3 days beyond the original schedule. Our Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Beck reports from the Dan Accadia Hotel in Herzliyya.

[Begin recording] [Beck] The main topic, in fact the only topic that was raised at the two working sessions the heads of the delegations first held today, after which the legal experts joined them, was the Tabah arbitral comprimis. The American draft compromise was phrased back in the previous meeting in Cairo, and now the delegation members are going over every article separately in a bid to bridge the gaps in the positions, but have started with the easy portions and are then moving to the more heavyweight issues. First, the marginal technical matters will be agreed upon, and only then will they move on to the substantial matters. Says Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office:

[Tamir] One should not regard every instance in which we meet as a beginning of talks. It would have been best, albeit unfeasible, to start the talks and pursue them to their end. However, this cannot be done because we are all people who are busy with other things as well. So, today we are in fact continuing what we began a week ago in Egypt, moving on from the point we had reached then. Progress was made even in the first hour of our talks. This is the way it should be done. We are pursuing discussion and work on all the issues, including the compromise, bilateral relations, and we also touched upon the fact that additional arrangements should be made for Tabah after the arbitration. We are dealing with all these subjects simultaneously.

[Beck] The delegations discussed the text of marginal articles in the compromise today, and an agreement was reached on such issues as the authority and the functioning of the arbitration body, how representatives for that body will be elected, who will finance the arbitration, and the type of documents the parties will be permitted to present to the arbiter. Representatives of both parties were very pleased with the atmosphere and nature of the talks, and described the atmosphere as positive, excellent, noting that the talks were constructive and serious, and that it is necessary to emphasize that this is part of a process. Said Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche:

[Kimche] We only started this morning. So far, there have been no problems. We will see what happens next. We discussed mainly the arbitral comprimis, but we will, of course, also continue to discuss bilateral issues, which are just as important.

[Beck] Sources in the Israeli delegation believe that the arbitral comprimis will not be finalized in this round of talks, either. Tomorrow, the committee dealing with improving bilateral ties will also resume its deliberations, and Egyptian representatives have been saying that they would demand a solution to the problem of the Coptic Church in Bi'r al-Sultan in Jerusalem. [end recording]

Al-'Arabi Meets With Shamir

TA121810 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer — live from Jerusalem, the Foreign Ministry]

[Text] The head of the Egyptian delegation, Nabil al-'Arabi, opened the meeting with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by saying that he had a verbal message from Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. The message was: We received the Israeli Inner Cabinet decision on the arbitration process over Tabah positively and, in contrast to the pubicity, we regard this as a positive move. On Tabah, Nabil al-'Arabi said: I do not want to dwell on this and speak about it here because matters are becoming clearer in the framework of the directors general committee. On mutual relations, the Egyptian representatives said: We are interested in improving relations in all fields. You want to improve relations in the fields of commerce and tourism. We also have problems in that field. The issue of Bi'r al-Sultan, the Coptic College in Jerusalem [sentence as heard]

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir replied by saying that he was satisfied with his Egyptian counterpart's message. On the Tabah matter, he said, the problem could be solved by finding suitable formulations, but on relations, we must go deeper. We will not solve those problems by formulations, but by a change in approach. Peace cannot be attained through formulations, but through hard work.

At this stage, the meeting between Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and the Egyptian delegation is continuing, but I have to say that, despite the fact that the two delegations, particularly the Egyptian one, are trying to create a positive, good atmosphere in the talks, in the final analysis, they have not yet begun discussing the three problems that will be a stumbling block in the talks between the two countries. And these are: The main question to be submitted to the arbiters; the matter that some of the Israeli delegation want the arbitration and the normalization agreements between Israel and Egypt to be made parallel; and the matter of the arrangements in the field after the arbiters have given their verdict. These issues cannot yet be discussed. They are the substantive issues and, if I may express an opinion here, on these matters there will yet be most difficult talks and only if the Inner Cabinet makes a decision on these questions will it be possible, in the end, to make progress.

Further Details Meeting Reported

TA121840 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Egyptian foreign minister has said his government received the Jerusalem Inner Cabinet decision about the process of arbitration over Tabah positively. Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-

Majid said this in a verbal message delvered to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Zhamir today by the head of the Egyptian delegation to the directors general talks, Nabil al-'Arabi.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that at the talk they dealt with the continuation of the peace process in the area. Minister Shamir repeated his proposal to establish a ministerial committee that would be common to both countries and would deal with these issues. At the meeting, the foreign minister also raised the matter of the report on the murder in Ra's al-Burqa'. The Egyptian envoy said the verdict is now being prepared in his country and it will be given to the Israeli ambassador and the Egyptians hope that the required answers will be found in it. The Egyptian representative also brought with him an inviation to Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir to go to Egypt and meet with his counterpart.

Agreement To Concern Only Tabah

TA130524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The arbitral comprimis between Israel and Egypt will not include matters which are not directly connected to the Tabah dispute. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that during the talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations in Herzliyya, it was decided that the arbitral compromise would not contain any mention of or conditions relating to issues connected to the implementation of bilateral agreements that do not deal with the Tabah dispute. The talks will continue today.

Tamir Reports Progress in Talks

TA131200 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Interview with Avraham Tamir, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, by program moderator 'Amiqam Rothman in the studio and correspondent Aharon Barne'a outside the hotel where the Tabah talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations are taking place — live]

[Excerpt] [Rothman] We have heard that you are optimistic about the chances of success in the talks on the arbitral compromis. On what do you base this optimism?

[Tamir] I did not use the terms optimistic or not optimistic.

[Rothman] But you were heard to say that the arbitral compromise can be completed in several weeks.

[Tamir] I said that we have a clear point of departure for what we must do. We have clear objectives as to what must be concluded. Meanwhile, we are making good progress in all the spheres. I have no reason to believe or assess that we will not conclude matters successfully.

[Barne'a] When you talk about progressing nicely, what do you mean?

[Tamir] In the framework of interministerial teamwork between the Foreign Ministry, the Defense Ministry, and the Prime Minister's Office, we are conducting negotiations in three [as heard] areas: The first is the creation of a point of departure for the arbitration process; the arbitral comprimis has to be completed; the second is the creation of a point of departure for the implementation of all the items in the bilateral agreements — and I stress, bilateral, because they [the Egyptians — FBIS] also have several problems — which have not yet been implemented. We have determined exactly how to define negotiations on this, and we are progressing nicely.

Kimche Comments

TA130633 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The director general of the Foreign Ministry has said tha Israel does not plan to include in the arbitral comprimis on Tabah conditions for the implementation of other agreements between Israel and Egypt. David Kimche explained that if such conditions were included in the arbitral comprimis, the arbiter would have the final decision, and Israel does not want this.

In an interview to Israel Radio this morning, the Foreign Ministry director general stressed that Israel and Egypt agreed that progress must be made in the two components being dealt with in the talks: formulation of the arbitral comprimis and improvement in the ties between Cairo and Jerusalem. The talks will end when the arbitral comprimis is formulated and a decision is reached on how the normalization components will be implemented.

He also said that the Egyptian delegation has informed Israel that the sentence handed down to the Ra's al-Burqa' murderer will be submitted to Israel in the coming days. If all the details are present, Israel will not demand any further clarifications.

Poll Shows Majority Favors Arbitration on Tabah

TA121141 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Feb 86 p 2

[Text] The number of those who believe Israel should agree to submit the question of Tabah to arbitration is double the number of those who disagree, according to a nation-wide public opinion poll conducted by the Pori Institute and commissioned by *HA'ARETZ*.

Some 53.4 percent of those polled believe that Israel should agree to arbitration on Tabah, while 27.4 percent object to it. Another 2.4 percent are prepared to accept arbitration on Tabah on condition that the Egyptian ambassador returns to his post in Israel. Some 16.7 percent said they "do not know" whether Israel should or should not agree to arbitration.

An analysis of the findings according to voting trends shows that 64 percent of Alignment voters favor arbitration as opposed to 38.3 percent of Likud voters. The poll was conducted on a representative sample of 1,200 women and men who were interviewed individually throughout Israel.

Peres Receives Husayn Message on Hiatus in Talks

TA130606 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Feb 86 p 1

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Excerpt] There will now be a "long hiatus" in the efforts to start peace negotiations, Jordan's King Husayn told Prime Minister Peres in a message delivered by U.S. envoy Watt Cluverius a few days ago, well-informed sources said yesterday.

The king's message, the sources said, explained that the halt was due to the PLO's rejection of the recent U.S. proposals for getting peace talks under way.

Cluverius met the king in Amman last Friday. Peres, it is reported, received the message with distress.

According to the sources, the main U.S. proposal was that the PLO recognize Israel in return for Israeli agreement to the inclusion of PLO members in the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks. But both Israel and Jordan hope that a breakthrough in the efforts to begin peace talks may still be achieved through pressure on the PLO by Jordan, Egypt and the U.S., or following tacit Syrian agreement to Jordan's participation in the talks with or without the PLO.

Contacts With Husayn To Continue

TA121158 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 12 Feb 86 p 1

[Excerpt] The contacts with King Husayn will continue, the prime minister told the *DAVAR* editorial board yesterday. Shim'on Peres stated that although the talks between Jordan and the PLO had failed, this does not mean that the lid has been closed on the efforts to resume the peace process. "We will wait for Husayn," Peres noted.

As for the proposal he recently raised once again "to devolve authority to the inhabitants of the territories," Peres explained to *DAVAR* that there are various possibilities for implementing this proposal, but none of them involves an imposed solution. "We will strive to create the molds for improving the standards and quality of life of the inhabitants of the territories and, at the same time, we will not give up on efforts to resume the peace process in order to guarantee the Jewish nature of the State of Israel," Peres added.

Peres: U.S. Declarations on Palestinians 'Not New'

TA131135 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has said it is not Israel's efforts at a dialogue with Jordan which have failed, but the negotiations between King Husayn and 'Arafat. Israel will continue to negotiate with Jordan. Mr Peres was speaking in an interview on the Arabic Television Meeting program [aired at 1700 GMT on 13 February].

He said that the proposal to devolve self-administration powers to the residents of the territories is no tantamount to giving up the Jordanian option, nor is it a substitute for a permanent solution. He said that Israel will propose that the residents of the territories expand their powers in terms of managing their own affairs, will allow domestic and foreign investments, and will agree that the residents develop the water resources in their areas. He emphasized that he anticipates that the Palestinian leadership in the territories will take its fate into its own hands.

He also said that the recent U.S. declarations about the legitimate rights of the Palestinians are not new, and that U.S. representatives deny that Washington maintains contacts with the PLO. Mr Peres said he believes the Americans on this issue.

Rabin Meets With Settlers on Various Issues

TA121154 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 12 Feb 86 p 3

[Report by correspondent in the south Dani Tzidqoni]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin turned down the request of Israeli settlers in the Gaza Strip to prevent residents of the "Canada" refugee camp in Rafah from crossing from Egypt to the Palestinian (Israeli) side. Rabin made this statement in a meeting with representatives of the Qatif Bloc settlements after touring the area.

The defense minister visited a military position in Jabalyah and toured Shaykh Rajwan, a rehabilitated neighborhood of refugees in Gaza, and Israeli settlements in the area.

To settlers who demanded that settlement be expanded, the defense minister replied that to his regret, the Defense Ministry had no funds for settlements at present but he would do everything he could to develop and strengthen existing settlements.

Shamir Holds New Conference on Ties With Africa

TA121545 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1520 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The resumption of ties between Israel and the Ivory Coast was announced in Jerusalem this afternoon, as the two countries officially issued communiques on the matter. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has held a news conference and reported that the two countries will exchange ambassadors very soon. In his news conference, Shamir claimed that he knows nothing about the imminent release of black leader Nelson Mandela as part of the deal that made the release of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy possible, as well. Our political correspondent, 'Oz Frankel, reports.

[Begin recording] [Frankel] One of the many reporters invited to the news conference with the foreign minister remarked quietly that it is possible to resume ties with many African countries, but it is also possible to reestablish ties with only a few countries, but to declare this many times. Let us recall that the media festival was first launched with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' clandestine visit to Geneva to meet with President Houphouet-Boigny. Three months have elapsed since then, and some evil tongues in Jerusalem started to question the sincerity of the intentions of the Ivory Coast leaders. However, Ivory Coast Foreign Minister Simeon Ake and the representative of our Foreign Ministry, Yitzhaq Minerbi, last week signed an official document in Abidjan, so that today Yitzhaq Shamir was able to hold a special news conference and announce the establishment of relations.

[Shamir] The two countries will very soon appoint ambassadors accredited to each other, in accordance with the common practice. Naturally, I congratulate the Government of the Cote d'Ivoire for the move it has taken, and I congratulate particularly the president of the Ivory Coast, or as it is better known, Cote d'Ivoire, Mr Houphouet-Boigny, for a decision which he had made a long time ago but which was implemented only today at this time.

[Frankel] Cote d'Ivoire, as it is known to its French-speaking local inhabitants, severed its official ties with Israel following the Yom Kippur war, but the unofficial ties continued and included many meetings between Israeli personalities with Houphouet-Boigny, the eminence gris.

Shamir is expecting other African countries to follow in the footsteps of Cote d'Ivoire, and in his news conference he emphasized the great improvement in Israel's relations with the black continent, manifest in votes in the United Nations and many other international institutions, as well as in increased Israeli exports to Africa, up to $100 million, and the extensive activity of Israeli business enterprises throughout the continent, which have reached the scope of $500 million.

Two other issues were raised at the news conference. The foreign minister said that he does not see in the release of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy any sign of a change in Moscow's policy toward the Middle East or the Jews in that country, and far faster changes are required.

As for the release of Nelson Mandela, he said he knows nothing about it, although he confirmed that in the past there had been contacts with South Africa on a deal that would involve the release of prisoners in South Africa and the Soviet Union. [end recording]

Chief of Staff on Turkish Vessel; Release Pending

TA121855 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The chief of staff has said that if no link is found between the Turkish ship captured by the Navy and hostile terrorist activity, it is almost certain that the ship will be released, with its crew. The chief of staff pointed out that the Turkish diplomatic representation in Israel is being given constant reports and the Foreign Ministry is also being kept informed of matters. The chief of staff emphasized that the crew of the Dabur ship that fired at the Turkish ship acted according to the procedures involving cases of the detention of a suspicious ship.

Our military corresopndent Shmu'el Tal reports that the results of the autopsy performed in the captain of the Turkish ship will be received tomorrow morning. The ship has been transferred to the port of Ashdod and the police are interrogating the crew members. Dogs trained to locate drugs have combed the ship, but did not find anything.

No Drugs Found

TA120621 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] No signs of drugs were found on the Turkish vessel caught yesterday off the Gaza coast. Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that hounds did not detect any traces of drugs on the boat, and it is therefore assumed that the sacks which the crew threw overboard during the chase did not contain drugs.

Last night an autopsy was carried out on the body of the boat's captain, in order to determine the cause of death. The crew claim that the man was killed when an Israel Navy boat fired shots at the Turkish vessel during the chase.

Our correspondent noted that the boat was on its way from Cyprus to Beirut, and according to the sailors, it was swept southward. This boat has been detained in the past under similar circumstances.

'High Tension' Reported Between ASL, UNIFIL

TA121856 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] This morning, an army of southern Lebanon [ASL] tank went over a mine near the security border. Nobody was hurt. After the incident, ASL soldiers opened automatic and tank fire at the Shi'ite village of Kafrah and hit a house. Our correspondent reports high tension between ASL and UN troops. Today, an ASL soldier was killed in a terrorist ambush. The inhabitants of his village, 'Ayn Ibil, claim that the UN troops prevented their people from capturing the terrorists and let the terrorists escape. The UN headquarters denies the claim.

ALGERIA

President Appoints New Ministers

LD121649 Algiers APS in English 1555 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Algiers, 12/2/86 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid appointed today:

M. Abdelaziz Khellaf as finance minister in replacement of Boualem Benhamouda who has been assigned other mission;

Mr. Mostefa Benamar as trade minister;

Mr. Mohamed Djeghaba as moudjahidins (veterans) minister in replacement of Djelloul Bakhti Nemmiche who has been assigned other mission;

Mr Mohamed Nabi as social protection minister in replacement of Mrs Z'hor Ounissi who has been assigned other missions.

The post of vice minister in charge of budget and domains has been suppressed.

The post of vice minister in charge of foreign trade is suppressed.

Mr. Mohamed Aberkane has been assigned other missions.

The post of vice minister in charge of labour is suppressed and Mr. Amar Azzouz has been assigned other missions.

Messaadia Discussions With Libya's Jallud Continue

LD122141 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Algerian-Libyan talks continued at the FLN central headquarters this afternoon under the chairmanship of Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and the official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, and Staff-Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, member of the Libyan Revolution Command. The meeting was held within the framework of creating objective conditions for the development of bilateral relations, broadening cooperation, and building the unity of the Greater Arab Maghreb and the necessary cohesion of the ranks of the Arab nation. The discussions were held in a constructive fraternal Arab atmosphere aimed at finding adequate solutions for the problems of the region.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Links Oil Prices, Previous Contracts

WA131250 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 0215 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The widely circulated Italian paper *LA STAMPA* has conducted an interview with the brother leader of the great Fatah revolution, in which he talked about a number of current issues. The leader stressed in this interview the consequences of the collapse of oil prices and its effect on the raging war in the Gulf, explaining that this sizable collapse in oil prices will inevitably escalate the Gulf war, the fighting will escalate, and the whole region will be affected.

The leader emphasized that there is almost unanimity among the OAPEC countries on the need to reduce production to a level that will ensure no decline in prices from the previous level, pointing out that there is agreement among the OAPEC countries to reconsider their existing contracts with industrial countries, whether they were for projects' implementation or for buying goods with a view to reducing the prices of these contracts by a percentage not less than the percentage of the oil prices' decline.

The leader explained that the prices of new contracts with the industrial countries for goods or projects should be reduced at least by the same percentage of the oil price decrease.

In his press interview the leader spoke about the (?sums) due to the companies of the industrial countries in accordance with existing contracts, and stressed that there is a semi-agreement among the OAPEC member countries to the effect that it is no longer possible to pay these dues at the same prices agreed in the contracts, and that they should be reduced by the same percentage of the oil prices reduction.

The brother leader of the revolution replied to a question relating to the attack on the Zionist El-Al offices at Rome and Vienna airports by saying that those who carried out the attack alone are responsible for its consequences. In his reply to a question by the paper's correspondent in connection with the reasons for the Palestinians to attack the said company's offices, the leader said that these reasons are self-evident which were explained by the Green Book. The brother leader of the revolution added that the Israelis pursued and fought the Palestinians everywhere and that what has happened at Rome and Vienna airports is in actual fact a reply to the raid on Tunis, pointing out that the Palestinians have only the Israelis and nobody else as their targets.

The leader noted that Western media did not (?report) the ugly operations which the Israelis carried out in the Palestinian camps and the Lebanese villages, where the Isarelis drove their tanks over civilian cars carrying Lebanese and Palestinian families. This is in addition to the ugly massacres they committed at the Sabra and Shatila camps. The brother leader of the revolution reaffirmed that there was a vast difference between the behavior of the Palestinian people who are struggling for regaining their country which is occupied by the Israelis, and the behavior of the independent states. He added that the Palestinian people are being pursued by aircraft and tanks outside their own country, and their feelings will be different from those who live in their own country and inside their own homes; it is difficult for us to put ourselves in the shoes of the Palestinians.

The brother leader of the revolution, during this interview, renewed the support of the Libyan Arab people for the armed struggle of the Palestinian people until Palestine is totally liberated — the legitimate struggle which is recognized by the UN Charter.

U.S. Begins 'Aggressive' Maneuvers 12 Feb

LD121412 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Early today U.S. naval and air forces began their aggressive terrorist maneuvers off the Libyan shores. Units of the U.S. 6th Fleet and the aircraft carriers *Coral Sea* and *Saratoga*, which carry F-14 and F-18 aircraft, are participating in these exercises. A U.S. naval authorities spokesman announced that U.S. naval units and aircraft will continue their exercises in this area until next Saturday.

At a press conference yesterday, President Reagan said that he will not hesitate to issue orders to U.S. warships and aircraft to enter the Gulf of Sidra. He added that the exercises aim at keeping U.S. forces in a state of combat preparedness.

Further Comment

LD121621 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Early today aircraft and warships of the U.S. 6th Fleet began terrorist aggressive exercises off the Libyan Arab shores. A spokesman for the U.S. War Department said that the exercises of the fleet, which includes F-14 and F-18 aircraft and the aircraft carriers *Saratoga* and *Coral Sea*, will continue for 4 days in the southern Mediterranean. More details in the following report:

The U.S. Government these days is doing its utmost to intensify its arrogant imperialist aggressive policy vis-a-vis other nations in order to cover up its failure in obtaining any support, albeit moral, for its official policies of pursuing state-organized terrorism. The United States is daily reaffirming its ferocious aggressive stance against the Libyan Arab people. The U.S. aggression daily reveals the true aggressive attitude of the leader of international terrorism — America, which is coupled with hatred and rancor against the stances of this people's policy, against the heroic stances of its revolution, and against the latter's pioneering role in resisting American-Zionist aggression in the Arab arena.

A short time after the conclusion of exercises by the U.S. 6th Fleet opposite the Gulf of Sidra during the period 24-31 January — which were internationally denounced and condemned — the U.S. Government, for the second time in less than a month, is exposing the continuation of the dangerous U.S. aggression which the U.S. 6th Fleet still represents in the Mediterranean.

Reports this morning speak of the commencement of new military exercises by warships of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the area where the previous exercises were held, exercises that were concluded about 2 weeks ago. The new exercises are scheduled to go on, according to American sources, until Saturday. Despite the fact that observers are not clearly explaining the reason for such successive hostile American stands opposite the Libyan shores, it is however, quite clear that this time the exercises seek to repeat the anti-Jamahiriyah imperialist hostile stance, and to intimidate the people of the Jamahiriyah in order to force it to change its pan-Arab attitudes which include combating the American-Zionist plans in the Arab region and the Mediterranean. The exercises also seek to provide protection for the enemy air force over the Mediterranean, and — as emphasized American sources themselves — to maintain the state of alert and preparedness within the forces of the U.S. 6th Fleet as a preparatory step for an expected aggression against the Jamahiriyah.

Iranian President's Call to Al-Qadhdhafi Reported

LD122045 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2010 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] President 'Lai Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran telephoned today the brother leader of the Revolution and informed him about the situation on the battlefield.

The Iranian President stressed to the brother leader of the revolution that Iran has no ambitions in the territories that the forces of the Iranian revolution have occupied, but that they will be handed back to the Iraqi people. He stressed to the leader that Iraq is for the Iraqis, and that Iran has no ambitions on any Iraqi territories.

The Iranian president repeated to the brother leader of the revolution that Iran fully supports the Sociailst Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in its brave confrontation with the U.S. provocations and maneuvers, and that Iran recognizes that the Gulf of Sidra is an integral part of Libyan Arab territory.

Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i expressed to the brother leader of the revolution the gratitude of the Iranian people and revolution for the Libyan Arab revolutionary stand of solidarity with the Iranian revolution.

Soviet AAPSO Official Cited on 'U.S.-Zionist Threats'

LD121853 Tripoli JANA in English 1444 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] [no place name as received] February 12, Jumada Thani 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A senior member of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, Mr Konstantin, has condemned U.S.-Zionist threats against the Libyan Arab people and also the U.S. manoeuvres off the Libyan shore.

In comments he made to JANA's correspondent today, Mr Konstantin has said it is not possible that a super power state such as USA starts threatening a small sovereign country through its muscle-flexing, pointing out that such acts together with U.S. economic sanctions against Al-Jamahiriyah are a contravention of international laws and conventions.

He has added that the Libyan Arab people will emerge victorious through its struggle against U.S. imperialism despite the latter's hostile schemes and machinations, pointing out that the people that has owned its own authority, wealth and weapons as well as having realised its freedom will not be subjugated and that all freedom-fighters worldwide will be by its side.

He has also lauded the civilised transformations accomplished by the people of Al-Jamahiriyah thanks to the great Al Fatah revolution in all fields adding the peoples all over the world witness with utmost respect these revolutionary transformations.

SUDAN

U.S. Stand on Palestinian Rights Welcomed

JN121750 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic
1720 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Feb (SUNA) — Sudan today welcomed the U.S. statement that the Palestinian cause is about self-determination for the Palestinian people and is not a refugee question. This came in a press statement by an official source at the Foreign Ministry. The official source described the U.S. statement as positive. He added that this places the Palestine cause in its correct framework for the first time.

The official source added that this matter constitutes a good initiative and a new momentum to efforts being exerted to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The official source at the Foreign Ministry said that this positive U.S. stand on the Palestine cause will be welcomed by all forces concerned about a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and about establishing peace based on the Palestinian people's self-determination and on the right of all countries in the region to live peacefully within secure and recognized borders.

News agencies quoted a U.S. State Department official spokesman as saying that the U.S. Administration does not consider the Palestinian problem a refugee question and that there should be no confusion between UN Resolutions 242 and 338 on one hand and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people on the other.

TUNISIA

President Appoints New Justice Minister

LD121428 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba held talks today at the Republican Palace in Carthage with the prime minister and interior minister, Mohamed Mzali, in the presence of the minister in charge of the Presidential Office, Mansour Skhiri. After the meeting, Mohamed Mzali made the following statement: His Excellency the president of the republic has decided to appoint Mohamed Salah 'Ayyari as minister of justice to succeed Ridha Ben Ali, who has been entrusted with other duties.

Foreign Minister Leaves for Baghdad With Message

LD121331 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba is following with profound concern the development of the Iraq-Iran war following the Iranian aggression against the Iraqi territories. Today President Habib Bourguiba reviewed with the foreign minister, Beji Caid Essebsi, the current international situation and the latest development in the Iraq-Iran war. His excellency asked Beji Caid Essebsi, who will this afternoon leave for Baghdad, to convey a message of affection and appreciation to the Iraqi president, Saddam Husayn. The head of state gave the foreign minister his directives with regard to the stance which Tunisia will adopt within the seven-man Arab Committee which will be meeting in the Iraqi capital.

KENYA

Okello Soldiers Reportedly Seek Asylum

EA121136 Nairobi KENYA TIMES in English 12 Feb 86 p1

[By William Onyango: "Okello Men Seek Asylum in Kenya"]

[Excerpts] At least 41 ex-soldiers of the deposed Ugandan head of state, General Tito Okello, are being held in Kenya, according to the principal immigration officer, Mr Milton Ole Ncharo. He said yesterday the fleeing soldiers had asked for asylum in Kenya and the relevant authorities were conducting interviews to establish whether they qualified as refugees.

The soldiers fled Uganda following a fierce fighting between the soldiers of Okello and those of the National Resistance Army (NRA) whose leader is Uganda's current president, Mr Yoweri Museveni. In an exclusive interview with the *KENYA TIMES*, Ole Ncharo said 30 of the 41 ex-soldiers had been sent to a refugee camp in Thika and that 11 others were being interviewed in Busia.

Busia DC [district commissioner] recently told the press that although the situation in Uganda had returned to normal, the Kenyan authorities would continue patrolling the area along the border in case soldiers from Uganda crossed over.

UGANDA

Museveni Discusses Ties With UK Official

EA122040 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The British Government has expressed support for the National Resistance Movement [NRMS] efforts to bring reunification and stability in Uganda. This was contained in a special message from the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, delivered to President Yoweri Museveni at his office, in Republic House, by the British minister responsible for African affairs [title as heard] Mrs Lynda Chalker.

During their discussion, the president informed Mrs Chalker of the latest developments in the war on both the eastern and western fronts. Mr Museveni dispelled suggestions from foreign sources that the problems with Uganda in the south were mainly of ethnic origin. He reiterated that the north has not been a happy place under the past northern-dominated regimes, adding that that the problem has not been Uganda's historical background but a misguided and incompetent leadership which encouraged corruption and created factions for opportunistic politicians in the recent past.

The president stated that the state of insecurity in Uganda, which was caused by a misguided army, was now legendary. Apart from lacking other basic qualifications, he said, their leaders were hopelessly out of date in organisational matters. He said what is under research now is a fresh start.

Mr Museveni informed Mrs Chalker that Uganda is endowed with abundant natural and human resources which can be developed to full potential, given leadership and stability which the government is committed to. The president said that we welcome foreign aid but emphasized that the aid given to Uganda in the past was often misdirected by the former regimes. He cited the example of imported powdered milk instead of veterinary drugs and agricultural inputs.

The president urged the British Government to help Uganda become self-sufficient rather than be perpetual beggars, so that in future the country can have the capacity to expand on its own. Mr Museveni said that the rehabilitation of the war-ravaged areas is a top priority of the government. The immediate repairs of the cement factories coupled with brick-making machinery will help the building industry, among other things, to fulfill this objective.

The president informed the British minister that Uganda is now united and opposing forces, who are fleeing, have no support of the majority of the people from the northern region. He anticipated that very soon those who have been engaged in futile military engagements against the NRA in the north will surrender peacefully in order to save unnecessary bloodshed. He added that the northern elders, together with diplomatic activities of the government, have already isolated the criminal elements from the defeated army.

In reply, Mrs Chalker said that she appreciated Uganda's immediate problems and promised her governments assistance in the fields that the Government of Uganda will indicate. She also said that Britain is willing to give technical, economic, and military assistance to Uganda.

The British minister was accompanied to the meeting by her under-secretary, Mr John Johnson; Major General Pollard; the British high commissioner to Uganda, Mr Colin McLean; and Uganda's minister for foreign affairs, Mr Ibrahim Mukiibi.

Earlier, Mrs Chalker held talks with Prime Minister Kisekka at his office in Kampala. Mrs Chalker left for home this evening [as heard].

Promises Refurbishment Program

EA121200 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has said the government will soon announce a detailed program of the rehabilitation of the areas which were affected by the liberation war since 1981. The president announced this yesterday during a visit to Kiboga, one of the areas which were worst hit by the war.

Addressing a meeting attended by diplomats accredited to Uganda and journalists, the president called for discipline in government organs, mobilization of resources and aid from friendly countries to rehabilitate the war-ravaged areas. He thanked the people for the support they gave to the NRA and assured them that every infrastructure would be restored fully. He stressed that the reconstruction program is very easy under the clear-headed government of the NRA, which aims at aid that will make the people self-reliant. He urged the people to help the government in the construction of their areas by making bricks. He said the government would provide (?iron sheets) for the reconstruction of schools, hospitals and private houses, to supplement people's efforts.

In their memorandum, the people of Kiboga reported tht they are now calm, jubilant, and security-conscious and appealed for assistance, especially in obtaining essential commodities.

Says Uganda Let Down

EA121205 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has asked African diplomats in Uganda to inform their governments that many African countries and the OAU had let down Uganda for the second time during Obote's second rule of the country and Tito Okello's regime. The first was during Idi Amin's rule. The president was speaking in Kiboga, 80 miles on the Kampal-Hoima road, where he took diplomats and journalists to witness the atrocities commitedtted. He said the skulls and others elsewhere were a clear The president told them that the (?heaps) of thousands of skeletons they saw in Kiboga were of people killed by Obote's Bear Battalion. He said the skulls and others elsewhere were a clear illustration that many officers [passage indistinct]. (?Those) criminals were even picking people from refugee camps where they were being looked after by the Red Cross and other international agencies. He said it is difficult to explain to the outside world the criminialities of Obote because some people are skeptical about the information and others go to the extent of denying the reports completely to justify why they do not condemn Obote and others who follow him. The crucial point now, he said, is to create harmony with the international and internal communities which had (?previous) discrepancies over the atrocities committed during the war.

Other places where numerous skeletons were found were Wamata, Bukomero, Katente, Kaya farm and Matirika.

Kisseka Urges Ministers To Cooperate,Coalesce

EA121354 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The prime minister, Dr Samson Kisseka, has called onministers to cooperate and work as a team to accelerate development of Uganda and her people. Dr Kisseka who was meeting the ministers at parliament building reiterated that the NRM [National Resistance Movement] government is a government of patriotic freedom fighters and experts. He called on all Ugandans to collectively face the challenge of unity because they all belong to one country.

(?He then) told the ministers that they must realize that tough times never last but tough people do and this is (?the legacy) and strategy they must adopt as freedom fighters to plan and implement programs in the name of the struggle. He warned that time is against them and stresssd the need to be persistent and devoted to work as a prerequisite for good leadership. Dr Kisseka called on the ministers to provide leadership and do the right thing as example tc their subordinates.

The prime minister stressed the need for complementary services between ministers and said he would be the ministers' watch dog to ensure the smooth running of government. For the government to run smoothly, he added, the NRM 10-point political program is the safety valve for the leaders.

Museveni Congratulated by Nigeria's Babangida

EA122028 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria has expressed his country's hope and prayer that under President Yoweri Museveni's dynamic leadership sincere political reconciliation which will bring to the whole of Uganda, peace and security necessary for economic progress will be witnessed [sentence as heard]. In a congratulatory message to President Yoweri Museveni, Major General Babangida said he looks forward to the strengthening of the existing very cordial relations between the two sister republics. He said Nigeria is prepared to make the necessary contributions towards the upliftment of the living standard of the people of Uganda and the whole of Africa to a self-respecting status.

NRA Forces Capture Eastern Town of Soroti

EA122038 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] NRA troops from the eastern front have captured Soroti Town. A spokesman of the ministry of defense said the town was captured at 4 pm today. He said the citizens of Soroti gave NRA troops a big welcome.

CHAD

Reports of Heavy Fighting, Libyan Involvement

Foreign Minister Interviewed

AB122133 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Interview granted by Gouara Lassou, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation to Radio Chad reporter Amadjira Alam Facho in Ndjamena on 12 February — recorded]

[Text] [Lassou] The fighting currently going on has been in preparation for a very long time, but the actual attack was launched on 10 February at Kouba Olanga, and since yesterday we have been subjected to attacks by very heavy Libyan war materiels. On the side of Kouba Olanga, we have the situation under control. The outcome of the fighting is as follows: On the enemy side, 216 killed; 220 prisoners; 3 Toyotas equipped with 14 [words indistinct] 6 Toyotas equipped with ground-to-ground rocket launchers, and 10 Toyota troop carriers, and 7 heavy-duty Mercedes (732). On our own side, 4 were killed at the warfront and 20 were woudned.

[Facho] Mr minister, could we have an idea about the materiel used by the enemy?

[Lassou] You know in war, the Libyans especially use heavy artillery for long-distance shelling. We know very well that Libyans cannot stand close-contact fighting...

[Facho interrupting] Yes, Mr Minister, can you speak to us about the materiel used; you mentioned trucks, Toyotas, and other materiel [words indistinct].

[Lassou] In fact, we experienced heavy artillery fire. To know the nature of materiel used is very difficult because with [words indisitnct]. But we know that they are canons, ground-to-ground mortars,in fact, heavy weaponry. We know very well that these are the techniques of the Libyans. They are used to doing this.

[Facho] Mr Minister, is the situation in Kouba Olanga calm now? Has the enemy been taken care of during the mop up operation?

[Lassou] As I have just said, we have the situation well in hand on the side of Kouba Olanga. That front has become calm and the enemy is in disarray. Incidentally, to give you a proof of the existence of Libyans, here is a military Libyan identity card collected in the field. You see the age of the Libyan with all the inscripitons in Arabic. You can read it all.

[Facho] The communique of the Executive Bureau had announced that some positions held by the Chadians National Forces could be attacked. Did the government get that hint of this because Oum Chalouba, for instance was attacked yesterday?

[Lassou] I have just said that we were following developments in the enemy's preparations in the various positions occupied by the Libyans. And when the fighting started, we were not surprised. We had announced in the communique that other positions would be attacked. When we reported on the meeting of the Executive Bureau on Saturday, 8 February, we announced to our people that our positions would be attacked; and they were attacked. We announced in a second communique that other positions would be attacked, and these positions have been attacked. Therefore, we knew because we were following the war preparations that the Libyans were making. On this subject, the president of the republic has infromed friendly countries that in the event of any aggression, they should intervene. We have notably made this request to France. So, we knew that fighting was going to break out. In fact, the fighting was going to be started in December.

[Facho] (?Do you have anything to tell) the people on what is happening in Oum Chalouba, since [words indistinct]?

[Lassou] Violent fighting is going on. The people should not allow themselves to be duped by the lies being told in Paris by a jailbird who has been subjected to brainwashing for a year. What is the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT]? What is the ANL [National Liberation Army]? Goukouni, like Acheikh who is talking, crossed the Chari River by swimming. They ran away with only their suitcases. Libya is maintaining mercenaries recruited from unemployed Beninese, Sudanese, and some Chadian sell-outs to constitute its troops of mercenaries which it calls the Islamic legion. They should not tell us that this is Goukouni's army. I call these utterings [of Acheikh Ibn Oumar] the delirium of a jailbird.

Ndjamena Refutes Claim of Koro-Toro Attack

AB122045 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] It is time for mobilization. As we were preparing to present the newscast, the traitors in the pay of Tripoli intensified their campaign of lies by crudely claiming that the Libyan forces have taken over Koro-Toro. This is most untrue. We will later provided you with full details about this campaign of lies. Listeners are assured this evening that Koro-Toro was never attacked by the invaders, so it is even less likely that it is now under their fascist control.

Kouba Olanga Said Under FANT Control

AB122137 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The Libyans, in their machiavellian desire to see Chad torn apart in order to constitute an easy prey for annexation, have, as you are aware, decided to attack the positions of our patriotic forces at Kouba Olanga and Kalait. In fact, since Monday the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT], have been fighting against the invaders who are heavily armed, as usual, and who had attempted to seize these two positions (in order to make further advances). At Kouba Olanga the FANT reacted with appropriate vigor in the face of the invaders.

The amount of booty seized by the FANT in most significant.

The invaders used a lot of artillery to occupy government positions. The aggressive Libyan army is directly engaged in a war against our country's sovereignty. The war we are fighting is an open battle launched by terrorist Libya against Chad. Libya's occupational plans were carefully prepared since after attacking Kouba Olanga which is now under FANT control, the positions of Oum Chalouba and Kalait were also attacked. The aggressive forces allege that they have increased the counter-attacks, but it is very ridiculous to claim that Libya is not engaged in the battle.

GABON

France's Penne on Fighting in Chad

AB121545 Paris AFP in French 1335 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, 12 Feb (AFP) — Guy Penne, French President Francois Mitterrand's special advisor for African affairs, arrived in Libreville early Wednesday afternoon for a few hours' visit.

Questioned by AFP on the fighting in Chad near the 16th parallel, Mr Penne, who had earlier held talks with President Hissein Habre at Ndjamena said: "I do not believe that Oum Chalouba has fallen."

It will be recalled that in a communique sent from Fada (northeastern Chad) to AFP in Paris, the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] asserted that its forces had taken over Kouba Olanga, Koro-Toro, and Oum Chalouba.

Mr Penne, who was accompanied by Joseph Franceschi, secretary of state for elderly persons, was received by Gabonese President Omar Bongo. A lunch reception followed these talks.

French diplomatic sources underline that Guy Penne's visit to Gabon "was envisaged over 10 days ago." The presence in Libreville of several members of the Chadian opposition — Colonel Kotiga, head of the "Red Codos," and Thiam Tidjani, who has just been dismissed from the Revolutionary Democratic Council, is just pure coincidence according to [words indisitnct].

France To Accelerate Aid to Chad

AB130743 Paris AFP in French 0709 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, 13 Feb (AFP) — France is to accelerate its aid to Chad in the area of weapons and equipment. This was stated on Thursday morning in Libreville by Guy Penne, special adviser to French president Francois Mitterrand for Africa affairs. Mr Penne described the fighting currently taking place in northern Chad as "very serious and very important."

"France's stand," he added in a statement to AFP, "has always been to give an 'appropriate' answer to Libya's attitude in Chad.

GUINEA

Guinean Press Agency, TASS Sign Agreement

AB112237 Conakry Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The GUINEAN PRESS AGENCY and the Soviet TASS agency signed an agreement on the exchange of information this morning. The agreement was signed for the Soviet agency by Vladimir Kitayev, the Soviet ambassador to Guinea, while (Ousmane) Bangoura, director of the GUINEAN PRESS AGENCY, signed for his agency.

IVORY COAST

Diplomatic Relations With Israel Resume 12 Feb

AB121302 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1252 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Since noon, Ivory Coast and Israel have re-established their diplomatic relations. The Government of the Republic of Ivory Coast and the Government of the State of Israel, in their desire to develop the relations of friendship and cooperation between their peoples, have decided to re-establish as from today, Wednesday 12 February 1986, the diplomatic relations between their two countries and to exchange ambassadors as soon as possible.

LIBERIA

Minister Denies Offering Asylum to Duvalier

AB122149 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Ministry of Information has announced that neither the Government of Liberia nor the Liberian foreign minister, J. Bernard Blamo, ever offered political asylum to Mr Jean-Claude Duvalier, former president of the republic of Haiti, nor has the former Haitian leader applied for political asylum to Liberia. The minister of foreign affairs was merely pointing out to journalists yesterday in an impromptu interview that the Charter of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, and the declaration of human rights permit any country to exercise the right to grant political asylum on humanitarian ground to those who seek asylum from aparticular state.

In the announcement also, the reference of the minister of foreign affairs to the fact that Ethiopia, Haiti, and Liberia as being the three black states to have originally subscribed to the United Nations Charter in the formation of that organization, was only for historical education purposes but was not a right nor implied invitation to the former president of Haiti to apply to Liberia for asylum. In a statement from the Ministry of Information today said [as heard] while Liberia believes that it could be [word indistinct] for any former president, regardless of the alleged atrocities he was supposed to have committed to remain a stateless person without refuge, the Liberian Government does not offer asylum at random and it was unfair that the statement of the foreign minister was overstressed with injected implications he never intended.

Libreville on Possible U.S. Pressure in Duvalier Case

AB121610 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1230 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Observers are wondering in Liberia about the Liberian Government's decision to grant asylum to former Haitian President Jean-Claude Devalier if requested to do so. Liberia justifies its decision by saying that Haiti and Liberia are two of the few black nations which are founding members of the United Nations and that the two countries have always had friendly and cordial relations throughout the years.

But observers are not convinced by these reasons and rather think that American authorities are pressuring the Liberian Government. Anyway, the role played by Washington in this affair is essnetial because it was the White House which forced Jean-Claude Duvalier to flee on board an American aircraft which landed in France, after other European countries refused to grant asylum to the dictator. Considering the relations existing between Liberia and the United States, one can think that Washinton had forced President Samuel Doe to grant asylum to Duvalier. Liberia is a poor country which receives an important aid from the United States and is therefore vulnerable to pressure from that country.

Court Orders Case Against Jackson Doe Dismissed

AB121721 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The treason trial involving the presidential candidate of the Liberia Action Party [LAP], Jackson F. Doe, has ended with the court dismissing the case. The magisterial court at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia in its ruling today, said there was lack of evidence to convict Mr Doe of treason. The prosecution ruled that there was no other alternative but to dismiss the case and set Mr Doe free. The judge then ordered the immediate release of the LAP presidential candidate.

Mr Jackson Doe was charged along with Mrs Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf for their alleged involvement following the 12 November abortive invasion led by the late commanding general Thomas Quiwonkpa.

ANGOLA

Deputy Foreign Minister Rejects Regional Council

MB131549 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpt] It is the attacker who must conform with security regulations and not the attacked. This is what Venancio de Moura, the deputy minister of external relations, said yesterday when referring to the recent proposals by President Pieter Botha for the creation of a security council comprising South Africa and southern African countries.

In an exclusive interview with the Angolan National Radio, Venancio de Moura said that the absurd and unbecoming statement by President Pieter Botha does not constitute a proposal but an abuse of language aimed at concealing the truth since it is the apartheid regime that is the main culprit in the destabilization of countries of the southern African region of the African Continent.

Spanish Foreign Minister Arrives for Official Visit

LD122335 Madrid in Spanish to Europe
1230 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The official visit to Angola by the Spanish minister of foreign affairs, Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, focused on both political and economic matters. A report on this from Virginia Gil Suarez:

The minister of foreign affairs, who arrived in Luanda from Dakar last night, has met with his Angolan counterpart, Afonso Van Dunem. He later met with the Angolan secretary of state for cooperation, Carlos Fernandes, and the minister of planning, Antonio Henriques da Silva. Tonight the president of Angola, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, will receive the Spanish foreign minister. This station has learned that at the meetings they have discussed increasing Spanish cooperation in Angola. They discussed possible aid for the construction of a medical center in Luanda, the establishment of a regular air link between the Angolan capital and Madrid, and aid for the Angolan fishing industry.

Apart from economic matters they discussed political subjects, the situation in southern Africa, and Angola's situation. In this connection the Spanish position is clear, according to Inocencio Arias of the Diplomatic Information Office, who is accompanying Foreign Minister Fernandez Ordonez on the trip. The position is as follows: a clear condemnation of apartheid; the application of EEC measures against South Africa; and no external aid for the movements fighting the Luanda regime.

Spain is the second largest purchaser of Angolan oil and the fourth or fifth exporter to Angola. Bilateral relations are excellent.

Before concluding his visit to this country in black Africa the Spanish foreign minister is due to give a joint press conference with his Angolan counterpart. Tomorrow, Thursday, Foreign Minister Fernandez Ordonez will end his African tour with a stopover in Abidjan, the Ivory Coast.

Meets With Dos Santos

LD130217 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish
2000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The first visit by a Spanish foreign minister to Angola since the country's independence came to an end today with the meeting between Francisco Fernandez Ordonez and President of Angola Jose Eduardo dos Santos, in Luanda. Fernandez Ordonez conveyed to President dos Santos a message from the Spanish prime minister in which he expresses our country's solidarity with Angola and condemns the actions of the anti-government guerrilla organization UNITA. During his visit, Foreign Minister Fernandez Ordonez has tried to even out the bilateral balance of payments through an increase in cooperation.

Dos Santos Congratulates Castro on Reelection

MB120932 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, has congratulated Commander Fidel Castro Ruz on his reelection as first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said that Fidel Castro's relection [words indistinct] in the struggle for scientific socialism. In the message, which was sent on behalf of the Angolan people and the MPLA-Labor Party, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos expressed confidence in the Cuban people's ability to fulfill the guidelines issued by the Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba.

He also expressed the belief that the traditional friendship and cooperatinon ties between Angola and Cuba will strengthen increasingly for the good of common struggle against imperialism for the independence, freedom, and social progress of mankind.

Education Minister Returns From Conference in Cuba

MB120927 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Augusto Lopes Teixeira, the minister of education, has returned to the country after exchanging experiences with Cuban and other educators.

Augusto Lopes Teixeira represented Angola at the International Congress of Pedagogy, which was held in Havana under the slogan Pedagogy 1986 — teachers for a better world.

The minister of education met with the Cuban minister of higher education in Havana. They discussed possibilities of increased educational cooperation between the two countries and placed special emphasis on the development of relations between Cuban universities and Angola's University of Agostinho Neto.

Minister Augusto Lopes Teixeira also visited the Isle of Youth, where he met with Angolan students attending technical courses in various fields.

UNITA Forces Capture Kamatabela; Negage Threatened
MB121024 (Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 12 Feb (KUP) — UNITA's victory in capturing Kamatabela, 54 km south of Negage, places the UNITA forces in a new position, first because it allows them to get near a military air base used by the Soviets, the Cubans, and the MPLA, and second because it is an important base for their infantry troops.

Since the capture of Kamatabela, Negage has been under serious threat from the UNITA forces led by Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, the UNITA president.

11 'Bandits' Killed in 6th Region Operations
MB120930 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] A total of 11 UNITA bandits were annihilated by the national defense and security forces in the last month in operations carried out in the 6th military region, Cuando Cubango Province.

The dedication of the FAPLA forces during the offensive also permitted the capture of four counterrevolutionaries, while three members of the UNITA gang surrendered to Cuando Cubango provincial authorities. The FAPLA forces also freed more than 100 people who helped the brave soldiers of the national army carry a large quantity of war materiel captured from the enemy.

UNITA Shells Huambo Hotel; Two Injured
MB121940 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] We are now going to read an ANGOP dispatch just received at our newsdesk:

A group of armed bandits last Sunday shelled the Hotel Roma in the city of Huambo, which injured two people and destroyed about two dozen rooms. The guests, including Portuguese, Chinese, and [word indistinct] journalists, were fired on at about 0130 for about 30 minutes from behind the building. Among the equipment used by the bandits were RPG-7 mortars and other types of mortars.

That criminal action was aimed essentially against peaceful journalists and civilian targets which are contributing to the economic and social development of the People's Republic of Angola.

LESOTHO

35 Political Prisoners Released Under Amnesty
MB121636 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 12 Feb 86

[All figures as heard]

[Text] Thirty-five political prisoners who were still awaiting trial in several prisons in the country have been released recently following the declaration of a general amnesty to all political prisoners by his majesty, King Moshoeshoe II, in Maseru last week.

In an interview with Radio Lesotho today, the director of prisons, Mr (T.N. Mutluti), said that at the central prison in Maseru, 29 men have been released, including 18 men who had been held at Thaba Tseka previously. Fifteen women were also released from the Maseru central prison, including seven from Thaba Tseka.

Mr (Mutluti) added that at Leribe prison, five men were released and one woman. All these people were still awaiting trial and had not yet been formally charged.

'High-Powered Delegation' Probes RSA Mine Violence
MB121326 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] A high-powered Lesotho delegation left Maseru at the weekend for the Western Deep Level mine complex at Carltonville, after receiving reports of faction fighting in the complex between Basotho and Xhosa mine workers. The delegation, which was led by the principal chief of (Yete), Chief Mohlomisi Bereng, comprised the principal secretary for the Ministry of Labor and Manpower Development, Mr M.G. Lupele, the labor commissioner, Mr T. Makhekhe, and the manager of Teba, [The Employment Bureau of Africa] in Lesotho, Mr C. (Jalon).

The delegation left Maseru on Saturday and returned today. Addressing Basotho mine workers, Chief Mohlomisi appealed to them to desist from fighting and to strive for an atmosphere of peace at the mine. He requested them to contact the mine management whenever they had problems and not take matters into their own hands. Also present were the Xhosa delegation from Transkei, which also held discussions with the Xhosa mine workers, and afterwards both delegations held talks with the mine management at TEMBA's head office in Johannesburg to find ways and means of resolving the crisis.

Five Basotho died during the incidents, including two who died during the actual fighting and two others who are disabled [word indistinct] by residents. Their names cannot be released until their next of kin have been informed. Seven Xhosas also died in the fights. About 18,000 Basotho work at this mine. The mine management has since communicated that the situation at the mine was back to normal.

MOZAMBIQUE

Norwegian Development Aid Minister Arrives

MB070941 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] In Maputo today, Mozambique and Norway begin talks aimed at broadening cooperation between the two countries. The Norwegian delegation to the talks will be led by Minister of Development Aid Reidun Brusletten, who has been in the Mozambican capital since yesterday.

Yesterday, the Norwegian minister toured the Naval School in Maputo, accompanied by Minister of Parts, Railways, and Merchant Marine Alcantara Santos. She was also received by Minister of Finance Rui Baltazar.

MNR Claims Anti-Insurgency Headquarters Capture

AU121412 Paris AFP in English 1404 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Lisbon, Feb 12 (AFP) — The rebel Mozambican National Resistance movement (MNR) today claimed its troops had captured the headquarters of a joint Mozambican-Zimbabwean anti-insurgency force in the central region of Gorongoza.

The MNR spokesman in Europe, Jorge Correira told Agence France-Presse here by telephone that 215 Mozambican Government soldiers, 91 Zimbabwean and five Cubans were killed during the capture yesterday. He added that seven MNR guerrillas died and 52 were wounded and a large quantity of weaponry, including seven armored vehicles, seized in the operation.

An estimated 10,000 Zimbabwean troops have been deployed in Mozambique to defend vital transport links between Zimbabwe and the Mozambican port of Beira and to help in efforts to crush the South African-backed MNR rebellion, which has seriously hurt the Mozambican economy.

The joint Zimbabwean-Mozambican forces last year captured a key guerrilla stronghold in the Gorongoza region of Manica Province. But the anti-insurgency drive has so far failed to eliminate the guerrilla presence in the area.

NAMIBIA

AZAPO President Taken Into Custody in Windhoek

MB121859 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1858 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 12, SAPA — The leader of the Azanian Peoples Organisation [AZAPO], Mr Saths Cooper, was taken into custody by security police in Windhoek at about 7.15 pm tonight, 45 minutes before he was due to address a public meeting.

A legal representative for the detained AZAPO president, Mr Dave Smuts, said police had refused to grant bail and Mr Cooper was expected to appear in the Windhoek Magistrates Court tomorrow.

A police spokesman said Mr Cooper was being held in terms of a 1970 SWA/Namibian ordinance which prohibits the entry into the territory of certain people without permits. The SWA/Namiban transitional government last year adopted draft legislation that would supersede the ordinance, but it was understood that the bill had not yet been published in the territory's official gazette.

Mr Cooper arrived in Windhoek last night at the Invitation of a left-wing group of the SWA National Union [SWANU]. He was due to hold talks with various leaders of "progressive political parties" in SWA/Namibia, according to an earlier SWANU statement. He had also been asked to address a meeting tonight of the Namibia Educational Forum [NEF]. The NEF is a discussion group that invites various speakers from time to time to discuss various topics.

The theme of Mr Coopers address to the NEF tonight was to be "the black consciousness movement and its lessons for Namibia."

Mr Cooper was due to leave SWA/Namibia and to return to South Africa tomorrow.

Further on Detention

MB130431 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2050 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] NEF sources said Mr Cooper had been arrested at a house in Katutura township outside Windhoek after permission had been granted for the meeting to go ahead in terms of the notification and Prohibition of Meetings Act in SWA/Namibia.

The NEF meeting carried on peacefully with discussions from the floor by about 200 people who, according to NEF estimates, had turned up to hear Mr Cooper at a Windhoek hotel.

Appears in Court, Leaves

MB131027 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1026 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 13, SAPA — AZAPO leader Mr Saths Cooper left SWA/Namibia today after making a brief appearance in the Windhoek Magistrates Court.

He was not asked to plead to charges that he did not obtain the necessary papers to enter SWA/Namibia, and bail of R50 was granted. The court adjourned until April 24.

Mr Cooper, 35, was arrested in Windhoek last night shortly before he was due to address a meeting of the privately sponsored Namibia Educational Forum on the theme "black consciousness movement and its lessons for Namibia."

The Azanian People's Organisation president was taken into custody in terms of a SWA/Namibian ordinance of 1970 which requires people of Asian descent to obtain permits to enter the territory. The ordinance is to be repealed by a bill adopted by the SWA/Namibian National Assembly last year. Authoritative sources said the legislation would be enacted on April 1.

The law is to be called the Residence of Certain Persons in South West Africa Regulation Act, and provides for non-residents of the territory to obtain permits if they wanted to visit SWA/Namibia for longer than 30 days. It will also empower the SWA-/Namibian transitional government to issue deportation orders in certain circumstances to people who were not born in the territory.

Political sources said a possible consequence of the repeal of the ordinance — in terms of which Mr Cooper had been detained — would be the dropping of charges when the court resumed on April 24.

Mr Cooper arrived in Windhoek on Tuesday for a two-day visit hosted by a left-wing group of the SWA National Union [SWANU]. A SWANU spokesman said Mr Cooper was taken to J.G. Strijdom Airport by party officials this morning where he boarded a flight for Cape Town.

AZAPO Condemns Detention

MB130441 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2149 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 12. SAPA — In reaction to the arrest of AZAPO leader Mr Saths Cooper in Windhoek earlier this evening, the organisation's publicity secretary condemned the action in "no uncertain terms" in a statement released late tonight.

Mr Muntu Myeza said: "It is ironical that South Africa's presence in Namibia has been declared illegal and yet she continues to enforce unacceptable laws in that coutnry. The detention of Mr Saths Cooper demonstrates South Africa's determination to maintain a heavy handed monopoly in the resolution of the problems of Namibia.

"We pledge our solidarity with the indigenous people of Namibia and condemn the detention in no uncertain terms."

SOUTH AFRICA

Mandela Release Depends on Violence Renunciation

MB130735 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
12 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] Cape Town — Angola would have to release captured commando Captain Wynand du Toit before South Africa would consider freeing Nelson Mandela, senior Government sources indicated today. However, the release of Captain du Toit would not itsef necessarily guarantee Mandela's freedom.

A major hurdle which would still have to be surmounted would be either to secure a country for Mandela's exile, or to get Mandela's undertaking to renounce violence before being released inside South Africa, the sources said.

It is understood that most members of the Cabinet, while keen to see Mandela free, do not want him released in South Africa if he remains committed to violence. If Mandela did anything to warrant his arrest and another showcase trial, the damage to the country would be far greater than that caused by his continued imprisonment, the argument goes.

Under these circumstances, Government sources said, Mandela's release is not imminent and the South African position remains unchanged.

PFP's Boraine To Resign at End of Month

MB130820 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0800 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Another top member of the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] has left Parliament and the party. Patrick Cull has details.

[Cull] The member of Parliament for Pinelands, Dr Alex Boraine, is to resign from Parliament at the end of this month. Announcing this a short while ago, Dr Boraine who is chairman of the PFP's Federal Council, says he believed he could achieve more and promote negotiation outside Parliament. Dr Boraine's resignation comes in the wake of that of the leader of the party, Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, last Friday. His impending resignation means that the member of Parliament for Sea Point and leader of the PFP between 1971 and 1977, Mr Colin Eglin, will almost certainly be elected leader when the Federal Council meets in Johannebsurg on Saturday.

Issues Statement on Resignation

MB131208 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Dr Alex Boraine, the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] member of Parliament for Pinelands, has announced his resignation from the party. Douglas McClure reports.

[McClure] Coming on at exactly a week after the resignation of Dr Van Zyl Slabbert as leader of the PFP last Friday, the announcement by Dr Alex Boraine today that he is also leaving the party must come as another shock to the members of the opposition. The PFP now faces the problem of how to turn this very negative political development into a positive one for the party. Certainly the resignation of Dr Boraine, a strong contender for the vacant leadership, means that it is almost certain that Mr Colin Eglin will become the new leader of the PFP. In his statement, Dr Boraine said: I am passionately commited to the politics of negotiation and I am horrified at the deep division in the South African society. We desperately need to develop a climate of trust which will make negotiation a better proposition than it is right now. I am under no illusion. I know that it will be as tough, if not tougher, outside Parliament than within, but I would like to throw my weight behind bridging the awesome gaps which exist in South Africa.

The leadership issue is now likely to be settled at a meeting of the Federal Council of the party on Saturday. Thus the leadership issue in the PFP has claimed its first victim and could well prove to be another stress factor in the determination of the party's political future.

Foreign Minister Botha Visits Switzerland

For coverage of Foreign Minister Pik Botha's visit to Switzerland, including his meetings with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker and UN High Commissioner for Refugees Jean-Pierre Hocke, see the Other Countries section of the 12 February Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Debt Standstill Proposals Sent to Involved Parties

MB121438 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans
1400 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Final draft proposals for the solution of South Africa's debt standstill on foreign loans have been received by all interested parties. The proposals were drawn up by the debt mediator, Dr Fritz Leutwiler of Switzerland. and were sent to all parties involved during the past 2 days.

Our economic news staff report that, although some details of the proposals have become known, the full details will apparently only be made known at the meeting on the standstill in London next week.

It has been revealed that the proposals differ greatly from those presented to the creditor bankers by South Africa originally. The purpose of next week's meeting is to obtain approval in principle of the proposals, although several technical aspects will have to be cleared up in the coming few months.

1-Year Repayment Delay Proposed

MB121455 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1400 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] South Africa's debt mediator is reported to have proposed a further 1-year delay in repayment of South Africa's debts. A Swiss commercial banking source in Zurich says Dr Fritz Leutwiler has proposed a 1-year extension of the debt moratorium but the source gave no further details. Dr Leutwiler's plan is due to be discussed by South Africa's foreign creditors in London on 20 February.

There has been speculation that Pik Botha's surprise visit to Europe may have something to do with the talks but Dr Leutwiler said he knows nothing about the South African foreign minister's visit. A spokesman for South Africa's minister of finance has said the South African Government has received compromise proposals from its international debt mediator. Sources close to Minister Barend du Plessis say the new proposals, although tougher, do not call for any capital repayment before the expiry of the freeze.

More Details Reported

MB130632 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] South Africa's creditor banks are looking at new proposals for the rescheduling of Pretoria's foreign debt. Bankers in London say proposals put forward by Swiss banker Fritz Leutwiler provide a realistic basis for the resumption of debt repayment which were frozen by the South African Government last year.

Pretoria's first proposals to halt repayments until [words indistinct] were rejected by the foreign banks. The new proposal requests the payment of 5 percent of the debt on a quarter basis starting in April. Bankers say the general aim is to reach an accord which would allow the debt standstill to expire at the end of March. Banks will be asked to roll over repayments on a voluntary basis for a year.

Producer Price of Commodities Up by 21.3 Percent

MB111018 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0959 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 12, SAPA — The production price index [PPI] for December 1985 shows that the producer price of all commodities for consumption in South Africa increased by 21.3 per cent since December 1984, according to figures released by the central statistical services in Pretoria.

Prices of imported commodities which represent about 23 per cent of all commodities increased by 30.7 per cent over the same period, while prices of locally produced commodities rose by 18.7 per cent on average.

Of the individual commodities, food, machinery, electrical machinery and transport equipment were largely responsible for the increases in producer prices of all commodities over the 12-month period.

The PPI regarding the total output of South African industry (which also includes production of export) reflects a rate of increase of 19.2 per cent in producers sale prices.

West Rand Councillors Not To Participate in NSC

MB121203 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1133 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 12, SAPA — The West Rand Urban Councils Association (WERUCA) has rejected participation in the state president's recently announced National Statutory Council [NSC] "because we do not have the mandate from the people."

WERUCA is made up of councillors from the townships of Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville, Alexandra, Bekkersdal, Mohlakeng, Kagiso and Munsieville.

The East Rand Urban Councils Association (ERUCA) said it had not taken a stand on whether or not to participate. ERUCA is made up of town councillors from Katlehong, Daveyton, Tembisa, Tsakane, Kwathema, Duduza, Thokoza and Wattville. ERUCA Chairman Mr Tom Boya said ERUCA would decide on whether or not to participate after it had been approached by the government. He said a meeting of ERUCA would be held in Thjokoza today, but the government's statutory council was not on the agenda.

WERUCA said in a press statement that councillors had been elected to serve in local authorities for the sole purpose of providing essential services and to represent residents aspirations at local level.

"We refuse to allow ourselves to be seen to be competing with national political leaders and organisations. We reject and boycott the invitation extended to us for participation in the National Statutory Council as we do not have a mandate from the people.

"Political leaders are in jail, exile and detention and some are dead. The leaders of the people shall and will reserve the undisputed right of political participation."

COSATU Condemns Inkatha Attacks on Supporters

MB111052 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1027 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 11, SAPA — The Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] today condemned alleged attacks by Inkatha supporters on COSATU members and pledged it would counter such violence through a national and international campaign.

A COSATU statement released today in Johannesburg after the organisation's first national executive meeting last weekend also criticised Inktha's attempts to set up alternate unions to "undermine the unity of the working class."

"We would urge those elements who use violence against COSATU to take note that COSATU can and will defend itself and that the use of violence will eventually prove counterproductive to the interests of those using it against COSATU," the statement said.

According to a report from COSATU'S Natal regional congress, the homes of two COSATU affiliates in Newcastle and Vryheid had been burned down, and officials in Newcastle had received death threats.

The organisation, representing 500,000 trade unionists, had informed "sympathetic" international union organisations of the situation, the statement, released at a news conference in Johannesburg today, said.

"COSATU can and will defend itself against violence of the state and its allies against the working class, but if this had to happen we would regard it as a failure and a setback to unionism and to the liberation of all people."

Mr Chris Dlamini, COSATU's second vice president, said Inkatha's description of itself as a non-violent organisation was "invalid." " They are exactly the opposite," he said.

The president of Inkatha, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, this week said he was unaware of any violence against members of COSATU and took "strong exception" to what he said was COSATU's suggestion that Inkatha was involved in violence against the union group. Chief Buthelezi has also accused COSATU of "political poaching" and complained the organisation was undemocratic.

Allegations that COSATU was a "front" for the African National Congress showed little understanding of the democracy of workers organisations, COSATU said.

The Natal report, which was endorsed by the central executive, said: "... We believe that we cannot separate the struggle for worker rights on the factory floor from the broader struggle for freedom.

"COSATU is part and parcel of the struggle for freedom. As is evidenced by the resolution taken at our launching congress, we believe that we have the right as workers to demand the release of elected and popular leaders, and to demand the unbanning of organisations banned by the minority apartheid government."

Turning to disinvestment, the statement asked: "Why should an organisation deliberately campaign against disinvestment in South Africa? Is it not better to remain silent?"

The call for disinvestment did not cause unemployment, the statement said, adding the "real cause" of the South African problem was government policy.

Mr Dlamini said COSATU would support progressive organisations inside and outside the country.

Terms NSC Effort 'Fraudulent'

MB111207 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1200 GMT 11 Feb 86

[text] Johannesburg, Feb 11, SAPA — COSATU viewed the National Statutory Council proposed by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, during his speech to open Parliament, as "another fraudulent attempt to perpetuate white minority rule."

The Congress of South African Trade Unions issued a statement in Johannesburg today stating Mr Botha could not be entrusted with the task of dismantling apartheid.

"COSATU has clearly stated that only a complete and immediate dismantlement of apartheid, the release of our authentic leaders and the unbanning of the authentic organisation of the oppressed minority will create the climate where a democratic South Africa can emerge," the statement said.

COSATU reaffirmed its commitment to one-man-one-vote. "COSATU therefore views the move to set up a National Statutory Council as another fraudulent attempt to perpetuate white minority rule. It is clear that those who agree to serve on this council are party to the continued political and economic domination of the majority of people in South Afriaca."

Reaffirms Johannesburg Boycott

MB111201 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1150 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 11, SAPA — COSATU today reaffirmed it would boycott the Johannesburg centenary celebrations.

A statement released in Johannesburg by the organisation's Central Executive Committee (CEC) after their first national executive meeting last weekend called for support of an alternate programme arranged by COSATU and other organisations.

"While the bosses, the state and their surrogates will be celebrating the fact that they have been exploiting workers for 100 years, the workers will be thinking of the 1946 mine workers strike and the 1980 Joburg municipal workers strike."

The statement said the 85 delegates representing 500,000 union members felt a clearer programme for the proposed rationalisation of existing unions into strong industrial unions was necessary. Feasibility studies would be conducted.

A COSATU vice president, Mr Chris Dlamini, promised the planned mergers would take place "soon." "The mergers generally are going well," he said.

On dismissals, the recent mass firing of 23,000 miners at Gencors [General Mining Union Corporation] Impala platinum mine in Bophuthatswana demonstrated "how the bantustan system has become an agent of the employers and the Botha government," the COSATU statement said.

The COSATU Central Executive Committee said: "The CEC has asked all affiliates to take steps to ensure that these workers are reinstated and that the NUM (National Union of Mineworkers) is recognised and allowed to organise by the bantustan government and GENCOR."

The statement called for extension of unionism to farm workers, unemployed workers, and the unification of construction workers.

The weekend meeting was described by COSATU's general secretary, Mr J. Naidoo, as "very fruitful."

Colored Schools Now Opened To All Races

MB120918 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0800 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The colored Chamber of Parliament has decided to admit pupils of all races to schools under its control. Patrick Cull reports the move is likely to result in confrontation between the ruling colored Labor Party [LP] and the government.

[Cull] LP leader the Reverend Allan Hendrickse confirmed this morning that schools under his administration are admitting pupils of all races. The Department of Education and Culture is also now appointing teachers of all race groups on a permanent basis. Education and Culture Minister in the House of Representatives Mr Carter Ebrahim stated yesterday that children of other race groups who apply for admission to primary, secondary, and tertiary institutions are admitted as a matter of course. The LP's action in opening the schools is likely to result in a major showdown with the National Party whose stated policies are segregated education and segregated residential areas.

Teachers Group Praises Step

MB121605 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1556 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 12, SAPA — The president of the Cape Teachers Professional Association, [CTPA] Mr Franklin Sonn, has welcomed the announcement by the minister of education and culture in the House of Representatives, Mr Carter Ebrahim, to open coloured schools to all races.

Mr Sonn said today that any step taken to remove apartheid from education was welcomed, and added: "All schools must be opened to all races."

The CTPA, he said, had reservations about employing white teachers permanently. It would meet officials of the department on Friday to discuss the matter.

Bill To Exclude Striking Black University Students

MB111940 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The government is introducing a new law that will cancel the registration of students at black universities if they refuse to attend classes. The bill has been approved in Parliament in Cape Town, over the objections of the Progressive Federal Party. Member of Parliament Helen Suzman has pointed out that no similar ruling exists at white universities or technikons.

But Education and Development Minister Gerrit Viljoen has replied that there are special circumstances in black education. The minister said very effective measures are needed to counter instigators who are not at college to study but to disrupt education, as part of the campaign to make South Africa ungovernable.

Expelled Bophuthatswana Students To Be Readmitted

MB121525 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1504 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Mafikeng, Feb 12, SAPA — Students expelled from the University of Bophuthatswana (UNIBO) last year as a result of campus violence were to be readmitted, a university official said today.

Mr Colin Knowles, UNIBO's public relations director, told SAPA's correspondent 29 of 36 expelled students would be allowed back, and added staff members expelled for the same reasons could also be reinstated. Mr Knowles said he could confirm reports that the Bophuthatswana internal ministry was prepared to review the staff cases.

He said those who wished their cases to be reconsidered should submit their applications in writing to the ministry before the end of the month. He also said 29 of the 36 expelled students would be readmitted.

This followed a meeting between the university's vice chancellor, Prof J.M.W. Mahene, President Lucas Mangope, and the cabinet yesterday.

The expulsions took place following the closing of the university last year after a class boycott and demonstrations.

MEDUNSA Students Return When White Students Leave

MB111029 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0729 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 11, SAPA — Students at the black Medical University of Southern Africa [MEDUNSA] near Garankuwa arrived for lectures this morning after a five-day boycott to protest the admission of white students.

The rector, Prof L.T. Taljaard, said the decision to go back to classes came after the white students left the campus due to tension caused by their presence. He said the whites had decided to seek admission at other universities.

School Boycotts Called To Protest Police Actions

MB121132 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1130 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 12, SAPA — The return to school in the townships is already beginning to crumble in the face of shootings, detentions and the observance of anniversaries of the deaths of unrest victims. Pupils in several areas have called short-term protest boycotts this week.

In Atteridgeville, near Pretoria, where two young people were killed this week in clashes with the police, a formal two day stayaway has been called by the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Students Organisation.

Tomorrow is the second anniversary of the death of Atteridgeville pupil Emma Sathekge, who was knocked down by a police vehicle during school protests. But classes broke down ahead of this official call yesterday and unrest was reported in the township.

In Tembisa on the East Rand, pupils will be attending school until noon tomorrow, when commemoration meetings for Emma Sathekge will be held.

In Jouberton, near Klerksdorp, students have abandoned classes in the wake of unrest deaths in the last fortnight. The death toll is thought by some sources to be as high as eight, but not all of these have been confirmed.

Rioting flared in Jouberton more than a week ago when police raided shebeens, and residents perceived this as a bid to force them to patronise the liquor outlet of the Western Transvaal Development Board.

In Ga-Rankuwa, in Bophuthatswana, pupils stayed out of classes yesterday and will do so for the duration of public violence court appearances by scores of their colleagues. The court appearances are scheduled to last until next Tuesday, according to sources.

In Phomolong, near Kroonstand, pupils clashed with police as they returned from a cemetery.

Tensions had been heightened when two leading United Democratic Front Members, Mr Dennis Bloem and Mr Jeffrey Samuels, were held by police on Monday evening. Police have reportedly confirmed that Mr Bloem is being detained in terms of section 50 of the Internal Security Act.

DET [Department of Education and Training] comment could not be immediately obtained.

Zulu Being Taught in Cape Town Schools

MB111016 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1004 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 11, SAPA — Zulu as a subject had been introduced at six secondary schools since the start of the new term, the executive director of the Department of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates, Mr A.K. Singh, said in a statement in Cape Town today.

Suitably qualified teachers were available and three-day orientation course with emphasis on methodology, had been held for teachers of Zulu.

"All schools under the control of the department will in due course be informed that it will be possible for them to introduce black languages into the Standard 6 curriculum ... subject to there being a viable demand and to a teacher for the subject being available," Mr Singh said.

17 Cape Town Theaters Open to All

MB121622 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1554 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 12, SAPA — Seventeen major cinemas in Cape Town have been given permission to open to all races.

This brings to 23 the number of Cape Town main circuit cinemas which can admit everyone.

The Goodwood metro is the only main cinema still segregated.

A spokesman for the regional office of the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning said the cinemas had, in face, been told by telephone yesterday that they could open their doors with immediate effect.

Letters of confirmation were being posted to the Ster-Kinekor and Uip-Warner cinemas concerned. Cinemas were entitled to open to all "immediately we informed them telephonically — last night even."

12 Arrested for Policemen's Murder in Umbumbulu

MB130827 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0822 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, Feb 13, SAPA — Twelve people have now been arrested in connection with the murder of three policemen in the Umbumbulu area south of Durban last Sunday, and police have taken possession of four firearms and large amounts of ammunition, according to a police spokesman.

The arrests follow round-the-clock investigations after three policemen, Const J.C. Dladla, Cost T.A. Mthembu and Const T.A Ngcamu, were shot and hacked to death after they had gone to investigate faction fighting between the Makanya and Embo tribes in the Umbumbulu area.

Four people were arrested on Monday night in the Madundube reserve by detectives from Amanzimtoti. A further eight were arrested last night. The police spokesman said investigations are continuing.

Second Durban Blast Caused by Booby-Trap

MB130637 Johannebsurg SAPA in English
0634 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, Feb 13, SAPA — Police dogs failed to detect a booby-trap at the scene of an explosion in Durban yesterday and a second blast occurred four hours later, long after corporation employees had been allowed into the area to inspect damaged equipment. No one was hurt when the second bomb exploded although two workers were treated for shock.

Policemen investigating the second explosion at the electrical substation in Sydenham said it was nearly impossible for their dogs to detect explosives in an area where a bomb had already exploded. One of them said the only way to detect a second bomb would be to carry out a thorough search of the area.

Police last night responded to suggestions that booby-trap tactics, which have already resulted in the death of one senior policeman, had left them helpless. A police spokesman said they were well aware of the booby-trap tactics being used by "terrorists."

Every precaution was being taken at the scene of bomb blasts. The area was cordoned off swiftly and the public urged to leave. Sniffer dogs had proved effective, but in an area where a bomb had exploded, sufficient time had to be given for the smell of the first bomb to clear before the dogs could be put to work.

Police also made thorough physical searches of the area. "However, we are not confined to these methods and have other means, such as mine detectors, which can be used," the spokesman said.

He suggested that the dogs had been unable to detect yesterday's trap because the limpet mine used had been buried too deeply.

The second blast came after a limpet mine had destroyed an electrical transformer and the area had been declared safe. It was buried beneath a pile of sand less than 2m from the transformer — the third booby trap laid in Durban this year.

Reporters and Durban City Engineers Department employees walked repeatedly by the buried mine before it exploded. Police cordoned off the area and began a search of the vicinity with metal detectors. A police spokesman repeated a plea to the public to stay away from bomb scenes because of the danger of a second explosion.

Seven Trucks Set on Fire Near Witbank

MB121942 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1921 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Witbank, Feb 12, SAPA — Seven company trucks were set alight this afternoon at two townships near Witbank, causing damage estimated at well over R100,000, a police spokesman said today.

Colonel Vic Heyns of the SAP's Public Relations Division in Pretoria said four trucks were set alight outside Ackville while the other three were set alight in Lynneville by a group of rampaging youths. All the drivers managed to escape uninjured. No arrests have been made and police investigations are continuing.

Police Report Damage From Unrest Near Cape Town

MB121847 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1829 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 12, SAPA — Damage estimated at R60,000 was caused and one man was slightly injured when groups of youths stoned and set alight vehicles in seven different incidents in Guguletu and Langa on Tuesday night.

Police said today that no incidents of unrest had been reported on the Cape Flats during the day and extra police patrols had been sent to the two areas where the overnight unrest had occurred.

A police liaison officer for the Western Province, Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, said youths in Old Klipfontein Raod, Guguletu, had stoned a private vehicle and slightly injured the driver who managed to run away about 10.40am yesterday.

At 1.45pm, a group of youths stoned a private vehicle in Old Klipfontein Road, Guguletu, and when the driver lost control of the vehicle it knocked down a woman pedestrian before smashing into another car. The driver managed to escape and no arrest was made, Lieutenant Laubscher said.

At about 5pm, youths on the corner of Bunga Avenue and Washington Avenue, Langa, had stoned a city tramways bus and had caused damage estimated at 100, he said.

Shortly before 7pm, stoning again occurred on Old Klipfontein Road, Guguletu. A crowd of youths first stoned and then set alight a light delivery vehicle valued at 12,000.

At 7pm, a crowd on Old Klipfontein Road, Guguletu, stoned a light delivery vehicle and the driver fled. Diesel was used to set vehicle alight causing an estimated R16,000 damage, he said.

At 7.40pm, a crowd in NY [expansion unknown] 188, Guguletu, stoned a city tramways bus and caused R700 damage while at 7.45pm a group of youths in NY 108, Guguletu stoned and set alight a truck causing R30,000 damage.

When a police patrol arrived on the scene they were also stoned and attacked by the 100-strong crowd. After teargas was fired the crowd dispersed and there were no injuries, Lieutenant Laubscher said.

Police Report 12 Feb Unrest Incidents

MB121841 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1823 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 12, SAPA — Herewith the Police Directorate of Public Relations 7pm unrest report:

The following incidents of unrest were reported today:-

At Uitenhage, a clinic was slightly damaged when it was petrol-bombed.

At Kabokweni, near White River, a bus was set on fire and extensively damaged.

In Mamelodi, Atteridgeville and Soshanguve, near Pretoria, buses and police vehicles were stoned. On one occasion, police fired tearsmoke to disperse stonethrowers. There were no arrests.

In Soshanguve, two policemen's hosues were attacked by arsonists and severely damaged. They were dispersed with rifle fire. No injuries were reported.

A similar incident occurred in Mamelodi, where a private home was extensively damaged by fire.

In the black residential area near Barberton, a bus was stoned and extensively damaged. A number of private vehicles were damaged by stonethrowers on the Barberton/Nelspruit road. A black man was injured in one of these incidents.

At Claremont, near Durban, two private vehicles were damaged by stonethrowers. In the same area, a police vehicle was stoned. The stonethrowers were dispersed with tearsmoke and shotgun fire. A black man was fatally wounded.

In Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand], a delivery vehicle and a private vehicle were damaged by stonethrowers.

Ends 7pm police report.

12-13 Feb Unrest Incidents

MB130652 Johannebsurg SAPA in English
0651 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — Following is the overnight unrest situation report issued to SAPA by the police public relations department in Pretoria.

The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

At Soweto, three vehicles were robbed from their drivers and another was demolished when it was set alight. A private home was stoned when a resident tried to escape. He was stabbed and killed with knives.

At Guguletu near Cape Town a mob was dispersed by the SAP with sjamboks when several buses were stoned.

In Mamelodi near Pretoria a man was injured when a mob stoned his delivery vehicle. Another vehicle was demolished by arsonists.

In Soshanguve near Pretoria two men were arrested when a vehicle was demolished by arsonists.

Two buses were stoned and a caravan was extensively damaged by a petrol bomb.

At Zwelentemba near Worcester the SAP used shotgun fire when a delivery vehicle was stoned. No one was reported injured or arrested.

In the black residential area at Witbank six vehicles were demolished by arsonists. A hostel was extensively damaged by a petrol bomb. In the coloured residential area a bus was demolished by arsonists.

In the black residential area Constantia at Kroonstad the private dwellings of two policemen were stoned. They dispersed their attackers with shotgun and pistol fire respectively. No injuries were reported.

At Dikatoli near Aliwal North a policeman used a pistol when his home was stoned. No injuries were reported.

In the black residential area Kubusie near Stutterheim a woman was injured when her home was set alight.

Black Sash Issues Statements on Moutse Removals

MB122051 Johannebsurg SAPA in English
1900 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 12, SAPA — Despite government denials that the removal of people from Uitvlugt, in the troubled area of Moutse, are not forced, the Transvaal Regional Action Committee (TRAC) of the Black Sash claim the families are being pressured into moving to Immerpan.

In a statement released in Johannesburg today, TRAC gave a number of reasons why it believed that forced removals were taking place.

"There is a heavy police presence in the area. This has caused considerable fear and insecurity and has been mentioned by some residents as a reason for leaving.

"The police are not allowing any meetings to be held in which the removal can be discussed. Thus no opportunity exists for the community as a whole to freely discuss the issue and then decide what to do," TRAC said.

On February 6, while the first removals were happening groups of more than two or three people were dispersed and people were discouraged from being on the streets, the statement said. TRAC said that there are reports that any people in the streets at night are teargassed "so that an undeclared curfew is in operation."

The committee said officials based at Uitvlugt appear to have been persuading people in various ways to move.

"Many people report that officials have come to their homes to ask them if they want to move (this is contrary to the departments claims).

"They have been offered huge amounts in compensation if they agree to move. One man was told he would get R20,000 and another R50,000 for houses made of concrete blocks and mud.

"They have been told that at Immerpan/Saliesloot they will get big quantities of grazing land and that there is plenty of water."

Black Sash members who went to Immerpan found people living in tents and that water was trucked in daily, the statement said.

Officials have given residents the impression that the whole village is to be moved, TRAC said.

"One resident was approached by an official to sign a form agreeing to move. When he asked what would happen if he did not do so, he was told that the whole place will be levelled anyway — and that he might as well move now.

"The above incidents contradict the government's claim that only those families which requested removal are being assisted."

The committee said that some families did request removal. However the majority of villagers were taken completely by surprise when a Department of Development Aid removal squad arrived in their village.

TRAC claims that there have been plans to move the Moutse people to Saliesloot and Immerpan for approximately 20 years.

"Long before KwaNdebele was dreamt up Moutse was due for removal as a black spot. At that stage their rich land ... was to be a gift to white farmers.

"They were told they would be removed to Saliesloot and Immerpan. When the KwaNdebele incorporation came up and the Moutse people rejected it, the minister (of constitutional development, Mr Chris Heunis) stated that these people who were opposed to living under the Ndebele homeland were free to go to Saliesloot and Immerpan.

"The incorporation of Moutse into KwaNdebele has destabilised a formerly peaceful and relatively prosperous area. The incorporation itself, as an act undertaken against the wishes of the residents of Moutse, is an act of violence and it has had violent consequences.

"As long as the incorporation remains in force Moutse will never know peace. The current removal is a consequence of this situation and has taken the injustice perpetrated against the Moutse people to new levels," TRAC said.

SADF Soldier, ANC Member Killed on Botswana Border

MB121925 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] A SADF soldier and an alleged member of the ANC have been killed on the Botswana border. A Defense Force spokesman said the national serviceman had been killed after an SADF patrol clashed with two suspected ANC guerrillas.

One of the alleged members of the ANC, who was armed with an AK-47 rifle, has been killed in the confrontation. The SADF spokesman said the patrol was on follow-up operations after they found tracks of two men, believed to be ANC guerrillas, in the northern Transvaal near Alldays. The name of the dead SADF soldier is being withheld until his next of kin have been notified.

The spokesman said three limpet mines and a number of grenades have been found in the operation. The search for the second suspected ANC guerrilla is continuing.

Patrol Clashes With 2 Terrorists

MB121443 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1442 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 12, SAPA — A defence force patrol has clashed with two suspected terrorists in the far northern Transvaal — scene of recent landmine blasts.

A press release by Defence Headquarters in Pretoria today said the patrol "yesterday found and followed the tracks of two people discovered on the farm Zanzibar, about 70 km from Alldays," near the Botswana border.

"Earlier today the tracks were followed on to a neighbouring farm where the patrol drew fire from two black men dressed in civilian clothes. The follow-up operation is continuing."

The statement added: "These terrorists probably infiltrated from Botswana and the authorities in Botswana have already been informed of the incident."

Earlier defence headquarters reported that a crop spray pilot driving to his aircraft detonated a landmine in the Messina district this morning.

Mr Doepie van Rensburg was not badly hurt and "suffered only a damaged eardrum in the explosion," the statement said.

The blast took place "in the area of the farm Overvlakte in the Weipe district about 50km from Messina at about 9am."

Mr Van Rensburg was travelling in a pick-up truck to an airstrip on the farm where his aircraft was parked when he hit the mine.

"Defence force elements were on the scene within minutes," the SADF added.

Followup Operations Continue

MB130742 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0735 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Messina, Feb 13, SAPA — Military follow-up operations continued in the northern and north-western Transvaal today after yesterday's two border security incidents near Messina and Alldays.

A security force member and a suspected terrorist died during a shootout near the Botswana border in the Alldays district yesterday.

Earlier, Mr Doepie van Rensburg, 27, of Louis Trichardt, a crop-sprayer employed by a Tzaneen-based company, escaped serious injury when his bakkie (pikck-up truck) detonated a landmine at Overvlakte Farm, west of Messina.

Farming activities have virtually come to a halt, with mine-sweeping troops launching patrols over a wide area. Travelling on gravel roads has been drastically restricted by military authorities. The likehood of landmines having been planted in the Alldays area has put farmers and their families on guard, while troops pour into the area to comb farm, district and other roads. Widespread rain in the region has complicated the follow-up operations.

Some farmers say the latest Messina incident seems to have scotched theories that the banned African National Congress has opened up a Botswana front at the expense of incursions from Zimbabwe. But others believe the entry route is from Botswana.

A senior defence force officer, Colonel Johan Swanepoel, said in Messina yesterday that "the usual precautionary measures" would be taken in the Soutpansberg military area, to prevent any further explosions. He warned farmers not to travel unnecessarily.

A farmer's wife, Mrs B. Estherhuyse, told SAPA that, although the danger of landmines was a worrying factor, "we are learning to accept it as a fact of life."

Despite nine deaths resulting from blasts during the last three months in the Messina and Ellisras areas, only one family has left the border area. They said they were leaving for economic reasons.

Routine checks of driveways and essential roads for landmines have become a daily way of life to most farming communities in the area, and those having to make regular trips are now in the habit of sharing vehicles, much in the style of urban "lift clubs."

Commentary on U.S. Aid to UNITA Forces

MB070527 Johannebsurg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] After 5 years of negotiations based on a faith in the power of reasonable persuasion, the United States has now decided to add muscle to its efforts to settle the Angolan question. That is the implication of the announcement by President Ronald Reagan this week, as confirmed by Dr Jonas Savimbi in an SABC interview. Announcing that America would support with not only moral but also material assistance those who were fighting against foreign domination of their countries, Mr Reagan mentioned Angola in the same context as Afghanistan, Cambodia, and Nicaragua.

He referred to such groups as freedom fighters, whose countries were under siege. A day later his secretary of state, Mr George Shultz, made known that UNITA would be receiving an aid package amounting to 32 million rand.

It would certainly be a mistake to see the announcement as an abandonment of America's diplomatic initiative to achieve a negotiated settlement in Angola. UNITA leader Dr Jonas Savimbi made this clear in his interview last night.

My reasoning, he said, has been all along that the best way to get results through negotiation is to negotiate from a strong position. His impression from his American talks was that that was understood in Washigton.

Aid to UNITA is therefore a reinforcing strategy in the diplomatic initiative. The aim of the Reagan administration is evidently to help strengthen UNITA to make the MPLA's refusal to negotiate even more difficult than it is now. The goals remain the same. The first is to achieve a negotiated settlement of the civil war and a form of government that has the broad support of the Angolan people — and since UNITA is obviously widely supported it cannot be left out of account.

The second is to secure the withdrawal from Angola of all Cuban military presence that is deeply disruptive both internally and regionally. Dr Savimbi reports that he has been assured that the United States remains committed to achieving a total withdrawal of Cubans from Angola.

A third goal, dependent on the success gained with the other two, is of course the removal of present obstructions in Angola to South West Africa's peaceful development to democratic independence.

Some commentators believe American aid to UNITA increases the likelihood that southern Africa will be turned into an arena for superpower rivaltry. They are rightly concerned that national and regional interests could in the process be subordinated to those of the superpowers, but they are 8 years late in their assessment of what Angola, and southern Africa in general, represent in international power relations.

It was the Soviet Union that placed the region's affairs on that level when, for the first time in the Third World, it intervened through its Cuban proxies to impose by force a Marxist regime on Angola. The introduction of the Cubans, Vice President George Bush pointed out on a visit to Africa more than 3 years ago, tore the fabric of reciprocal restraint between the United States and the Soviet Union in the developing world.

The question since then has merely been one of how best to deal with that dangerous element in southern Africa.

Press Views Current Issues, Problems

MB110451 [Editorial Report] **NP Backing for PFP Denied**

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 10 February on page 1 carries a report by Brian Stuart which says that "speculation that 35 National Party [NP] members are prepared to split and join the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] has been dismissed by both political parties." The speculation arose after contact by some NP members with the PFP leadership last week. "At the time, they were unaware that the leadership could not respond because of the impending resignation of Dr Slabbert." Slabbert received a personal message from an NP member saying that 35 NP members were prepared to join the PFP if Slabbert did not resign. However, "NP members told *THE CITIZEN* that within their ranks were some 'even a little more liberal than a few we can name within the PFP — but defections are not on the cards.' " Within the PFP, the contest for the leadership was between Dr Alex Boraine and Mr Colin Eglin. Boraine, however, told the paper he was giving "deep consideration" concerning his own role in politics.

CITIZEN on Political Change

In its editorial on page 6, *THE CITIZEN* says that South African politics "have been shaken by the events on Friday." These include both the resignation of PFP leader Slabbert and President P.W. Botha's criticism of Foreign Minister Pik Botha. On Slabbert, the paper says the resignation revealed Slabbert as "a political dilettante rather than a committed poltician, a man who sees politics in intellectual rather than hard, practical terms." It notes a split in the PFP between the Houghton Group supporting Boraine, and the conservatives, supporting Harry Schwarz. This split will diminish the party and show that the real opposition to the NP comes from the right. It notes the split with the NP as a result of the president's criticism of Pik Botha and says that the position of F.W. de Klerk has been strengthened as a result. However, "it is on the Right that the true opposition to the NP is gathering itself for a showdown. Strong as it is, the NP cannot afford to go into that battle divided. It had better get itself together."

CITIZEN Urges Slabbert To Reconsider

In an editorial on page 6, Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 8 February also discusses Slabbert's resignation and says that with this action, "the PFP is done for as a party of consequence." The party cannot afford to see Slabbert go, since without him "the oft-predicted split" in the PFP may come about. "Nor can the country afford to see him go, for whatever criticism one might have of the party and its policies under his leadership, his contribution to the political debate has been considerable. More than any other oppostion figure, Slabbert "has been able to pose alternatives that should be studied carefully by all who search for solutions that will ensure that South Africa progresses in peace." It is to be hoped that Slabbert's resignation is a "temporary aberration" and that he will reconsider and decide not to quit.

Parties Close Ranks

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 10 February carries a report by David Braun on page 1 saying that both the PFP and the NP were closing ranks following their divisions as the results of Friday's events. The emotion and confusion in the PFP which followed Dr Slabbert's announcement has rapidly given way to anger at its manner and timing. One senior MP has made it plain he no longer wants anything to do with Dr Slabbert." Party sources agreed there would be no more resignations and the party would stay in Parliament. As for the rift in the NP, "reliable sources have confirmed that Mr Pik Botha has decided to take his humiliating repudiation on the chin and stay. It is understood he still has faith in the NP, and particularly the president, to produce meaningful reform."

Slabbert Interview

In an interview with the paper on the same page, the paper cites Slabbert as saying his resignation "does not mean it is useless to look to Parliament for political change." " 'If, and it is an important if, constitutional change is to have any success it has to come from Parliament,' " Slabbert said. On the split in the PFP, Slabbert said he was not prepared to be " 'a political band-aid.' " " 'A party cannot survive on one person holding it together. It has to rely on its policy and principles.' "

Split in Church

According to an article on page 10, the paper reports that "there are indications in South African church circles that a racial split which would affect the whole spectrum of Christian denominations is imminent. Apparently black church leaders feel that the mainline denominations are not radical enough regarding the liberation struggle, that they are too moderate on issues such as violence." Speaking last week Dr Beyers Naude said that " 'We have to face the fact of growing conflict between black and white, including black and white Christians. My impression is that 1986 may turn out to be a year of crisis for the church.' "

Black Buying Power

"Blacks will become the main retail target market, more small stores will cater for them and the JSE [Johannesburg Stock Exchange] will see more listings in this sector," Fred Stiglingh reports on page 4 of the Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 10 February. This prediction was contained in an overview by an industrial analyst who said blacks would represent at least 66 percent of the retail market by the end of the century, with an average growth of between 6.5 and 8 percent over the next 15 years.

Residents Not To Pay Rent

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 10 February reports on page 3 that "flat-dwellers in Jabulani, Soweto, yesterday joined their Tshiawelo counterparts by deciding at a meeting not to pay rent for next month until the Soweto Council has met their demands." The residents' main demand is that the council reduce rents for the apartments.

TRASCO Appeals to Security Forces

"The newly-formed Transvaal Students Congress [TRASCO] has appealed to the security forces not to interfere with services to commemorate the death of Emma Sathekge, who was killed after being run over by a police vehicle in a school yard in Atteridgeville last year," another report on the same page says. A TRASCO spokesman said students will go to school on the day of the commemoration service, but principals must release them at noon to allow them to attend.

SOWETAN on Slabbert Resignation

In its editorial on page 4, the *SOWETAN* says that the wrong person resigned in Parliament last week. After he had been "publicly humilated," Foreign Minister Pik Botha should have been dismissed or should have resigned. "We believe Mr P.W. Botha's performance towards the Minister of Foreign Affairs was petty." On the resignation of PFP leader Slabbert, the paper says that "while we sometimes have similar feelings of despair, feelings that it would perhaps be better to give up the whole miserable struggle, we doubt if that is what the country expects us to do." Slabbert should have followed the example of PFP MP Helen Suzman, who has "had to stomach all sorts of insults and defeats while she sat in Parliament." "We do not think it would be wrong to say that it was because of her sticking to her guns that we are seeing some definite changes of direction in National Party policy today."

SPCC Member Interview

In an interview with Reverend Molefe Tsele, public relations officer of the Soweto Parents Crisis Committtee (SPCC) on page 5, Tsele said " 'there is a belief that because most SPCC members belong to the Soweto Civic Association (SCA), which is a UDF [United Democratic Front] affiliate, the SPCC is also a UDF affiliate. This is not the case. We are not affiliated to any major political organizations.' " Tsela also said that SPCC consultations with the government "were the most frustrating" and that the SPCC's " 'toughest challenge is still the radical student-conservative parent link." It is this " 'student —parent tussle' " that may spell " 'the death knell for the SPCC and not anything else.' " Tsele added that the SPCC want the community to have the final say in education matters. " 'We want an education that will be part of the people's political, social and economic aspirations and not an ideological imposition.' "

Column on Restaurant Incident

In his "On the Line" column on page 9, Aggrey Klaaste discusses the incident in which House of Representatives MP's were denied service in a restaurant catering to House of Assembly members. However, these MP's were among those who had agreed "to sit in three different chambers, talking about the same thing. They agreed to the waste of space and time by having this apartheid parliamentary model instituted. It serves them right. They cannot, if you will excuse this, have their piece of cake and eat it, too." Noting that House of Representatives members had praised the state president's speech at the opening of Parliament, Klaaste says "the same chaps who are praising the State President to the skies are making him turn red in the face by asking for equal eating facilities."

Botha on Slabbert Resignation

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 10 February reports on its front page that State President P.W. Botha, in his first reaction to the resignation of Dr van Zyl Slabbert, said it was a strange way of doing things for a politician to turn his back on the parliamentary institution because he disapproves of a speech by the head of state. Speaking to *BEELD*, Botha says Slabbert had not informed him of his intended resignation. Botha added: " 'I do not wish to comment on his step at this stage, expect to say that we should raise the status of Parliament and maintain its honor, as Parliament is the only medium through which change can come.' "

BEELD on Trauma of Reform

In an editorial on page 6, the paper says political reform seldom takes place without trauma, and South Africa's reforms are aimed at avoiding the revolutions, chaos, and slaughter common in Africa. Everyone who read the recent advertisements by the National Party, which had the state president's signature, will know the government is in earnest about reform and that the political changes will be great, perhaps more so than they ever dreamed of. "It is against this background that Minister Pik Botha's words of last week about 'a black South African president' should be seen." What Minister Botha forgot at that moment, the paper says, is that politics, in the words of another late statesman, is the art of the possible, and that at the present time that possibility is indeed remote. It adds that the fact that Dr van Zyl Slabbert was also another victim of reform should surprise no one, after observing his performance during the no-confidence debate last week.

SWAZILAND

MP's Passport Seized for Security Reasons

MB121053 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND
in English 12 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] Police have seized an international passport and travel documents from a member of Parliament, Mr J.Z. Dube.

The MP's documents were seized yesterday from his home in Mankayane. The Police CID [Criminal Investigations Division] Chief, Mr Mgwembe Dlamini, said that they were seized for security reasons.

Former Supreme Council of State Member Arrested

MB090504 Mbabane Domestic Service in Siswati
1100 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] A former member of the Liqoqo [Supreme Council of State], Prince Mfanasibili, was arrested yesterday afternoon by Swaziland Royal Police. Police sources say he has been detained for allegedly breaking the laws of Swaziland.

ZAMBIA

Lesotho Delegation Arrives for Talks, Meets Kaunda

MB121527 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpts] The 6-man Lesotho delegation which left Maseru yesterday on a 6-nation tour of the southern African region yesterday morning held discussions with the president of Botswana, His Excellency Dr Quett Masire, in Gaborone. The Lesotho delegation left Gaborone for Lusaka yesterday afternoon, on the second leg of their visit.

Meanwhile, President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia yesterday evening received the Lesotho delegation, led by the member of the Military Council of Lesotho, His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Thaabe Letsie, in the presence of the Honorable L.B. Manyake and Lesotho government officials, in Lusaka, Zambia.

The delegation delivered to Dr Kaunda a special message from his majesty, King Moshoeshoe II. President Kaunda expressed appreciation for the message from the king, and for the briefing he received on the situation in Lesotho. During the meeting, Zambian Foreign Minister Prof Lameck Goma was present.

The president gave the Lesotho delegation the assurance that he would be despatching a reply to King Moshoeshoe II. The foreign minister, the Honorable Manyake, described the talks as cordial and said they were conducted in a friendly atmosphere. The delegation had just arrived in Lusaka from Gaborone, where it held a meeting with President Masire of Botswana.

The delegation also held talks with a delegation from the ANC of South Africa. The Lesotho delegation was seen off at Lusaka airport by Prof Lameck Goma and is now in Harare.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

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Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi troops overran Iranian positions in the southern Majnun oil fields, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses 14 February. Iraqi forces "annihilated" the Iranian troops and consolidated their positions in the area, the communique added. Iraqi troops also continued to advance 14 February toward Iranian forces that had crossed the Shatt al-'Arab, INA reported. Meanwhile, an Iranian military statement reported by Tehran radio claimed that Iranian forces repelled three Iraqi counteroffensives on the Al-Faw-Basra highway 14 February while Iranian troops consolidated positions north of Al-Faw. The radio also claimed 14 February that 10,000 Iraqi troops had been killed or wounded in the overall offensive, while IRNA reported 13 February that 1,500 Iraqi troops had been captured.

In the air war, Iraqi planes attacked Kharg Island, the Ganaveh pipeline intersection, and Ahvaz airport 13 February, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. An Iranian military communique cited by IRNA reported that Iraqi planes also attacked Abadan.

Egypt-PLO

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat 13 February, MENA reported. In a statement on arriving in Cairo, 'Arafat said he and Mubarak would discuss U.S. proposals on the Middle East issue, according to an earlier MENA report. 'Arafat said the Jordanian-Palestinian talks were suspended due to "U.S. intransigence and bias" toward Israel, MENA added.

Libya

Fighting in Chad — "Libyan forces" attacked the Chadian Government post at Ziguey and stepped up their attack on Oum Chalouba, AFP reported citing the Chadian ambassador to France. A GUNT spokesman meanwhile claimed that Oum Chalouba and Kouba Olanga are under GUNT control, AFP added. Ndjamena radio later reported that Chadian Government troops repelled the attack on Ziguey.

Relations With Algeria — Libya and Algeria completed work toward a "unionist move," Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud said at the conclusion of a 4-day visit to Algeria, Tripoli television reported.

Israel

The proposed "devolution" plan would not take the place of a permanent solution for the territories, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said in an interview with Jerusalem television. Peres said he is proposing the plan as an "addition to or improvement on the current situation." In Herzliyya, the Egyptian and Israeli delegations reported progress on normalizing relations between the two states, according to an IDF radio report on the 13 February proceedings. The arbitration committee resolved marginal points but has yet to deal with "problematic" issues, the radio added. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio reported that six people were injured when a bomb exploded on a bus near Tel Aviv. The PLO's Force-17 corps claimed responsibility for the bombing in a telephone call to AFP.

Lebanon

The Damascus tripartite agreement contains "many important principles" but requires "modifications" concerning the division of power and other matters, President Amin al-Jumayyil said in a French press interview reported by Beirut radio. Responding to calls to step down from office, Al-Jumayyil told *LE MONDE* that his resignation now would "paralyze" the country's institutions.

PDRY

In an interview in Addis Ababa, former leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad told the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I* that all the military forces backing him are located in the PDRY and that none are in the YAR. In Aden, General Secretary of the YSP Central Committee 'Ali Salim Al-Bid called for closer relations between the PDRY and Ethiopia in a news conference reported by Aden radio. Meanwhile, PLO representative in Aden 'Abbas Zaki denied that the new leadership had asked him to leave the country in a statement to the UAE's *AL-KHALIJ*. Aden radio earlier reported that Zaki met with Housing Minister Muhammad Ahmad Salman and with Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali.

Morocco

An appeals court imposed prison sentences on all but one of 27 people charged with attempting to overthrow the monarchy and reconstitute a banned left-wing movement, AFP reported.

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Further Reportage on Klibi Press Conference

JN131541 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Commenting on the anomalous stand the Syrian and Libyan regimes have adopted toward Iraq and their support for Iran, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi said: We abide by the basic principles dealing with the Arab situation, principles which were defined by the Arab League Council and the Fes summiit. At a press conference in Baghdad today, Klibi added: Our stand which is in line wiith the Arab League Charter is the one by which we abide.

On the threats the head of the Iraniian regime made yesterday to countries which are members of the seven-member committee, Klibi said: We are in solidariity with Iraq which is an Arab League member. We will not relinquish our pan-Arab duty.

At the press conference which was attended by Arab and foreign correspondents, Klibi read the text of the communique which the seven-member committee had issued supporting Iraq, denouncing the unjust Iranian aggression against Iraqi territory, warning Iran against the condsequences of pursuing this aggression, and calling on the UN Security Council to hold an emergency session to discuss this aggression.

PLO Envoys in Europe Determine Future Moves

GF121746 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The meetings between the directors of the offices in the Western European countries and the cadres of the Political Department, under the chairmanship of Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], chairman of the PLO Political Department, which began in Tunis on 7 February, ended on 11 February. These meetings comprehensively reviewed developments related to the Palestinian issue, relations between the PLO and the Western European countries, the situation in the Palestinian arena in particular, and the Arab situation in general, and the mechanism of the work of the PLO offices and representatives in European countries.

Brother Abu al-Lutf presented a comprehensive report on political developments and the future policy of the movement in the European arena. In one of the sessions, Brother Abu Iyad presented a report on the latest development and the recent Palestinian-Jordanian talks in Amman.

The directors of the PLO offices presented comprehensive reports on relations between the PLO and the Western European countries and on the mechanism of these offices. All have noticed that the PLO is being subjected to a concentrated attack by the United States and other circles for the purpose of cancelling the national identity of the Palestinian people, destroying the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative, and liquidating the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Malicious methods are being used in this attack to put pressure on the PLO militarily, politically, and financially and to lay siege upon it to isolate it from the international community and from its people. The meetings were concluded by determining a general trend for the political and information moves in the next stage based on the following:

1. To firmly adhere to the national Palestinian constants, especially the rights of the Palestinian people to return, to self-determination, and to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state;

2. To adhere to the international legitimacy represented by all UN resolutions concerning the Palestinian issue;

3. To continue consolidating all legitimate means of struggle approved by international legislation for the peoples struggling to liberate their homelands from foreign occupation, including armed struggle;

4. To fully abide by the PNC resolutions;

5. To implement the resolutions of the Executive Committee concerning the democratic dialogue to achieve and consolidate national Palestinian unity and Arab solidarity and to eliminate the impurities which have been created in relations between the PLO and some fraternal Arab countries;

6. To consolidate and strengthen relations of struggle solidarity between the PLO and the socialist countries, nonaligned countries, the Islamic countries, all progressive and democratic forces in the world, and the national liberation movements in Africa, Asia, and Latin America;

7. To attempt to develop relations with all Western European countries in all political, cultural, health, and economic fields and to raise these relations to the level of developed relations existing between the PLO and Greece, Austria, Cyprus, Malta, and Italy.

It has been indicated on all occasions that all are proud of the struggle of our people in the occupied territories, their cohesion and rallying around the PLO and its national revolutionary leadership, their firm adherence to their national rights, their daily bold resistance to the occupation, and their brave steadfastness on their soil.

Qaddumi: Nothing New Indicated in U.S. Statement

JN131010 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
13 Feb 86 p 20

[Excerpt] Tunis, QNA — Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has expressed his belief that the statement issued by the U.S. State Department last Monday [7 Feb] on the Middle East peace process did not bring anything new and did not reflect any change in the U.S. stand.

In a statement here yesterday, Qaddumi said anyone who reads the U.S. Statement can clearly see the failure to adhere to a frank reply to a specific stand toward basic issues without which the peace process cannot be completed, such as the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, PLO participation at an international conference, and guarantees that would ensure the [continuation of the peace process. He reaffirmed that the Palestinian people's right to self-determination is a natural right and should be a basis for the peace process and that the Palestinian people must participate in the negotiations through their sole legitimate representative.

PLO Official Says U.S. Must Further Define Stance

NC121753 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] PLO representative in Cairo Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim has commented on a statement made by a U.S. State Department spokesman yesterday about the United States' stance on the Palestinian people's rights. In a statement to our reporter, 'Abd al-Rahim said: The expression "legitimate rights of the Palestinian people" is elastic and apt to be interpreted in different ways. The United States should have defined the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, above all their right to self-determination and to the establishment of their own state within the context of a confederation with Jordan. The United States should also recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

U.S. Statement Criticized

JN121853 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] O brothers, all the words that may give positive meaning to the recent U.S. statement on UN Resolution 242 concerning the Palestine question are incomplete. Regarding form, the statement was made by the deputy spokesman of the State Department, not by Secretary of State Shultz, for example, or President Reagan. This is evidence of the importance that Washington wants to attach to the statement and the extent of the commitments to which it wants to adhere. Regarding the content of the statement, Redman said that the U.S. Administration has previously stated its realization that the Palestinian problem is more than a refugee problem. But he did not define more than that.. Consequently, as it is clear in the rest of the statement, the U.S. Administration did not provide any concept of the final form that a solution to the Palestine question may take.

Thus, the Palestinian people's rights, which have a positive echo in our ears, remain vague in Washington's stand. Moreover, Washington has not adopted a clear-cut position on these riaur ears, remaghts in accordance with the international concept of people's rights or as is clear in the Palestinian problem itself. These rights are the right to self-determination and the right to repatriation. On the basis of this vague position, the U.S. statement says that the full manner in which the Palestinian people's legitimate rights are exercised will become clear as the negotiations proceed. It also places the question of recognizing these rights, whose concepts and the manner in which they will be exercised remain unclear, at the same level of what it calls resolving the location of boundaries and the nature of the security arrangements. These are also the subject of negotiations regarding the final status of the West Bank and Gaza.

The statement adds: "In our view, there should be Palestinian participation at every stage of the negotiating process." As expected, this Palestinian participation also remains cloaked in the same intended vagueness. This vagueness increases when the statement says that any agreement on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza should receive the prior consent of the inhabitants of those territories. It seems that the statement separates the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza from the rest of the Palestinian people and their cause with regard to Palestinian representation and the Palestinian problem. In light of all this vagueness surrounding the talk about the aspects of the Palestine question, the statement remains clear in demanding prior recognition of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 by any side that may enter into the negotiations, whose framework is also not defined.

Milhim Welcomes U.S. Stand on Palestinian Cause

JN121301 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Fu'ad Na'im dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpt] Official Jordanian quarters received with interest the statements that the U.S. Department made yesterday, considering that the Palestinian cause is more than a problem of refugees. Although there hass been no official Jordanian comment on the subject, the official Jordanian media, such as the television and the radio, highlighted in detail the U.S. stand and the Jordanian press carried it on its front pages.

Muhammad Milhim, PLO Executive Committee member, has told our radio that he believes that the U.S. spokesman's statements are a qualitative step in the U.S. stand. He added that he believes that this qualitative step is represented in two basic points.

The first is that the U.S. State Department affirmed that Resolution 242 is in itself not sufficient for settling the Palestinian issue. The second point is that the U.S. statements are an indirect U.S. reply to Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Pres who had said that the Jordanian-Palestinian talks failed and that Israel must make its own arrangements in the occupied territories.

Soviet's Jewery Immigration Evokes Comment

GF131336 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[From the Press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, the newspaper *AL-JAZIRAH* comments on Soviet dissidents, especially those who have acquired a worldwide reputation by virtue of the attention given to them by Western propaganda, such as Sakharov and Scharananskiy. It says: A large sector of the Arab public wonders about the reason for their dissent with the USSR. The closest answer is that they are not communists, and that they were dissatisfied with living in a communist country hostile to celestial religions. But this is not the correct answer. The paper explains: The true reason for their dissent with the USSR is because they are Zionist Jews who believe in the idea of a Jewish state in the land of Israel, which is the occupied Arab Palestine. Their only aim by demanding emigration from the Soviet Union directly to Israel or to another country in Europe as a first step in their journey to Israel, is to join their Zionist brothers in Israel and to render their academic and applicative knowledge and expertise to the service of the Zionist strategy. The implementation of this strategy's political and military plans is enhanced by the idea of the continued existence of Israel on the land of Palestine.

The Zionist Jewish dissidents who arrive in Israel from the USSR represent the most dangerous foreign aid for maintaining Israel on the Arab land of Palestine and for achieving the expansionist greed of the Zionist Jews.

French Denial of 'Arafat Statement Refuted

PM121633 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 12 Feb 86 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "*AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* replies to French Spokesman"]

[Excerpt] London — Yesterday, the French Ministry for External Relations, in a departure from regular political and information practises, issued a strange statement denying PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* and casting doubts on the authenticity of the statement.

In his statement, 'Arafat accused the United States, Britain, and France of trying to create a Palestinian substitute for the PLO. *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* reported this statement accurately as it always does in such situations. But a spokesman for the French Ministry issued a statement that was lacking in objectivity. It said: "The ministry totally rejects *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*'s allegations because they are groundless. It doubts that such allegations agree with actual statements made by Yasir 'Arafat."

Al-SHARQ AL-AWSAT would like to reaffirm to the French spokesman and to others that Yasir 'Arafat made this statement to 'Arafat Hijazi, its correspondent in Amman, and that it is recorded on a tape. The French spokesman should only have denied what 'Arafat said if it was not true but should not have criticized the paper that carried the statement, particularly in view of the fact that he represents a country that believes in liberty and freedom of the press.

Palestinian Forces Claim Blasts in Israeli Cities

JN131745 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1642 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command has stated the following: Our heroes from the Martyr Halim Group operating inside the occupied homeland managed to plant a timed, explosive charge in the central bus station in 'Afula. Afterward, the group withdrew from the scene of the operation with complete success. At 1100 today, 13 February 1986, the explosive charge detonated causing extensive damage to several buses belonging to the Zionist Egged company and wounding two enemy personnel who were evacuated to the hospital. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command

The Palestinian military spokesman has also stated the following: One of our fighter groups operating inside the occupied homeland planted a timed, high-explosive charge near a Zionist court in the port of Haifa. The charge exploded on time this morning causing extensive damage to the court building, as well as killing or wounding a number of Zionists who were present during the explosion. The group withdrew from the scene of the operation with complete success. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command

The Zionist forces cordoned off the scene of the explosion and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of interrogation.

KUWAIT

Defense Minister Inspects Northeastern Border

LD131944 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1845 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Feb (KUNA) — This morning the defense minister, Shaykh Salim al-Sabah, inspected the forward positions at the northeast border accompanied by a number of commanders and officers.

PDRY

Chairman Al-'Attas Appoints Deputy Defense Minister

GF131453 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has issued a decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in which Article 1 stated the promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Haytham Qasim Tahir to the rank of colonel, while the rest of the articles stated that the decree will go into effect as of its date of issue and publication in the official gazette.

The chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium also issued a Supreme People's Council Presidium decree in which Article 1 appointed Col Haytham Qasim Tahir as first deputy defense minister and chief of the general staff. The rest of the articles stated the cancellation of any prior appointments to this post. They also stated that the decree will go into effect as of its date of issue and its publication in the official gazette.

Issues Loan Agreement Decrees

GF131303 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has issued five decrees of the Supreme People's Council, ratifying five decrees of the Supreme People's Council Presidium for 1985.

In its first clause, the first decree ratifies the decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium No 17 for 1985 pertaining to the ratification of the loan agreement for the project to expand and develop the Aden port between the PDRY and the Kuwaiti Arab economic development fund, which was signed in Kuwait on 22 May 1985.

The second clause ratifies the decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium No 18 for 1985 pertaining to the ratification of the loan agreement for the contribution to the fourth road project between the PDRY and the International Development Institute [name as heard] which was signed in the state of Columbia in the United States [as heard] on 4 October 1985.

In its first clause, the third decree ratifies the decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium No 19 for 1985 pertaining to the ratification of the loan agreement to contribute to the development of the Aden port project between the PDRY and the Saudi Development Fund which was signed in Aden on 29 July 1985.

The fourth decree ratifies the decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium No 20 for 1985 pertaining to the ratification of the loan agreement for contributing to the expansion and developing of Aden port between the PDRY and the Abu Dhabi Arab Economic Development Fund, which was signed in Aden on 25 September 1985.

The fifth decree ratifies the decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium No 21 for 1985 pertaining to the ratification of the loan agreement for contributing to the financing of the project of the (Al-Habilayn-Lab'uth)-al-Hadd road between the PDRY and Algeria, which was signed in Algiers on 23 September 1985.

The rest of the clauses state that the decrees mentioned in the first clauses of the decrees will have the power of law and will go into effect as of the date of their issue and be published in the official newspaper.

Receives Envoys to UK, UN

GF132056 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, received in his office today brother Salih 'Abdallah Muthanna, our country's ambassador to Britain, and brother 'Abdallah al-Ashtal, our country's permanent envoy to the United Nations.

During the meeting, Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas gave a detailed explanation on the bloody 13 January conspiracy which was arranged by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique. He was also briefed on the activities of our country's diplomatic corps in Britain and the United Nations and on the role which was played by each in clarifying and denouncing the serious dimensions of the conspiracy.

YSP Secretary General Holds Press Conference

GF131956 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, has affirmed that the YSP Political Bureau was concerned about solving differences with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his group through a democratic dialogue, through legitimate committees, and according to the central democratic principle.

He said: The Third YSP General Congress was held on this basis, but 'Ali Nasir Muhammad used to reject this and attempted to hinder the committees before and after the congress. He said: When we succeeded in convincing him to reactivate the committees, the result was his plotting of that despicable conspiracy which turned the meeting of the YSP Political Bureau into a bloody and barbaric massacre and drowned the country in a bloodbath.

Those statements were made during the press conference the brother secretary general held yesterday evening with a number of socialist countries' newspaper and news agency correspondents.

The secretary general said: 'Ali Nasir Muhammad was against internal democracy and did not adhere to the revolutionary principles which organize the party's domestic life. He used to refuse to resort to the domestic documents and statutes. He also used to ignore committees, hinder the implementation of resolutions, and spread financial corruption among the leadership circles in order to pave the way for his crazy desire for power and personal pleasures.

In his press conference, Brother Al-Bid clarified the core of difference with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his ambiguous method. He said that conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhamamd used to ignore the existence of class conflict in society and the effect of this conflict on the life of the party, and that he used to spread new colonialist concepts which propagate the solution of the so-called sectarian and tribal conflicts, instead of the class conflict, during the phase of the national democratic revolution. He pointed out 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's desire to agitate tribal disputes and to organize regional blocks in order to wipe out the class conflict and to weaken the unity of the party and the people. Brother al-Bid pointed out 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's desire to restore the anti-revolutionary force, the remnants of reactionary rightism, and opportunist leftism, and the political prisoners who are linked with the counterrevolutionary movement.

He said that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad relied on those forces and put them in the party and gave them significant positions in the civil and military organs of the state. He said: 'Alawi Husayn Farhan, one of the significant leaders of the conspiracy, admitted that a big part of the leaderships who fought in the residential streets were among those who were released from prisons or who returned from counterrevolutionary camps abroad. He said: A big number of armed elements also admitted to previous activities abroad which were hostile to the revolution, and that their return to the party and infiltration inside the military and security establishments were directly planned by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his conspiring aides. Some of those were found carrying military cards which prove they were members of counterrevolutionary camps, hostile to our progressive regime, before 1980.

Brother Al-Bid uncovered part of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's two-faced personality and his state of personal schizophrenia, and said that he was a political hypocrite who desired to show to the socialist countries and communist parties that the principled elements in the YSP Political Bureau were pan-Arab and reactionary elements who supported the Arab countries. He used to describe the principled elements who supported Arab countries and pan-Arab forces as Marxist and extremist elements who are hostile to pan-Arabism, peaceful living, and Arab solidarity.

He said: Thus, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad used to pretend before the socialist countries and communist parties that he was a defender of communism while he used to pretend before the Arab countries that he was a moderate and logical politician and a believer in pan-Arabism.

Brother Al-Bid said: Since he was a political hypocrite, his ugly, two-faced personality was unveiled and was thrown into the garbage bin of history — chased by the curses of the toiler masses and their denunciation of him for his immorality and his barbaric crimes against the party, the people, and the homeland. He will receive his just punishment sooner or later.

Concerning the PDRY's relations with Ethiopia, Brother Al- Bid said that they are strategic relations, affirming our party's determination to develop those relations in all fields. Brother Al-Bid said those relations exist between the two revolutions, countries, and peoples that are linked by bonds of struggle and joint fate and that those relations have nothing to do with persons. In this regard, Brother Al-Bid pointed out that a number of the heroes defending the Ethiopian revolution were martyred during 'Ali Nasir's barbaric massacres at the halls of the fake meetings, which civil and military party cadres were asked to attend on the morning of 13 January. He said: Also, a big number of those who participated in defending the Ethiopian revolution had a big role in confronting and foiling 'Ali Nasir's bloody conspiracy

Foreign Minister Interviewed by Kuwait's AL-SIYASAH

GF140800 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 12 Feb 86 p 17

[Interview with Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, PDRY foreign minister, by Nabil Ghazzawi in Aden — date not given]

[Text] [Nabil Ghazzawi] Following the confidence voiced in you to assume the duties of the Foreign Ministry, will there be any important changes in the principles and bases of the foreign policy of your country on the party and state level?

['Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali] I would like to reaffirm, as my comrades have done before me, that there will be no changes in the principles or bases of our foreign policy now or in the future. This policy stems from the principles and the bases adopted by the YSP and are applicable to all party and state organizations. This policy is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and security. We want to develop good relations and mutual cooperation with the neighboring, fraternal countries, the GCC states, and with other fraternal Arab and world countries. These relations are based on fraternal cooperation and efforts to consolidate security and stability in the region, noninterference in others' internal affairs, and reciprocal respect for national sovereignty. We will follow the path of the foreign policy that has been plotted by the party, and we will not change these principles now or in the future.

[Ghazzawi] Without doubt your foreign policy highly takes into consideration relations with the YAR, the neighboring GCC states, and the countries of the Horn of Africa. How do you evaluate the bases and the trends which formulate this policy with these countries?

[Al-Dali] First, we do not think that our relations with YAR come under foreign policy because we are one people and we consider it an internal Yemeni issue. Please spare me having to answer this question.

Without doubt, the GCC states are fraternal and neighboring countries. We have joint fraternal and historical bonds characterized by mutual cooperation and joint efforts to establish security and keep the region free from foreign intervention, reciprocal respect of national sovereignty, and noninterference in each others' internal affairs. We will work to develop these relations. We have already established advanced relations with Kuwait, the UAE, and the fraternal Sultanate of Oman. We are keen to develop relations with Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Qatar. We are confident that we will succeed in the future in developing these relations to the betterment of the interests of our all peoples. Concerning the countries of the Horn of Africa, we are very keen to have relations of good neighborliness and noninterference, and to work to solve conflicts peacefully. We are confident of developing cooperation with these countries and to keep the region away from any circumstances that might undermine its security and stability.

[Ghazzawi] As is known, some socialist countries, including the USSR, are strong allies of your country and party. How do you view the future of your relations with these countries?

[Al-Dali] There is no doubt the USSR is a friend to our country. The YSP is linked to the CPSU through good relations. We hope that relations with the USSR will improve further and will lead to more cooperation. The USSR has extended much aid to us in all fields. Our respect for the USSR springs from its high eagerness for nonintervention in our internal affairs.

[Ghazzawi] Because your country adopts the policy of peaceful coexistence with different economic and social systems, how do you view the future of your relations with capitalist, nonaligned, and Muslim countries?

[Al-Dali] Out of our policy of peaceful coexistence, we welcome the establishment of relations with all countries which reciprocate our feelings. Our doors are not closed to countries if they intend to observe our national sovereignty. We have relations with other countries — whether they are capitalist, Muslim, or nonaligned countries — on the condition that these countries respect our policy and line. Our relations with Muslim countries will be strengthened because we are Muslim people. We will strengthen relations with the nonaligned countries because we are a member of the Nonaligned Movement.

Defense Minister Addresses Martyrs' Day Rally

GF131748 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A speech and military rally was held today on the occasion of the martyrs' day at the naval forces' command. The rally was attended by Brother Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad, candidate member of the YSP Political Bureau and minister of defense; Lieutenant Colonel Husayn 'Ali Hasan, director of the Political Department of the Armed Forces; and a large crowd of members and officers of the Defense Ministry and the naval forces.

At the beginning of the rally, the audience observed 1 minute of silence for the souls of the martyrs. Later, Brother Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad spoke. He reviewed the tragic events witnessed by our party and people as a result of the futile coupist conspiracy carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his terrorist clique, which was designed against the best leaders of the party, the party's experienced cadres in the military and civil establishments, and against innocent sons of our people. He said that the 13 January events were not a coincidence but had class, ideological and political roots, and reasons which go back to the mid-1960s.

The defense minister pointed out that the detailed preparation of the plot by the disgraceful conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his fascist clique, designed to liquidate the revolution from inside, reminded him of the methods used to deceive comrades and strugglers. They also reminded him of methods used to vary the party's leadership role in society and in the Armed Forces, and the concealed desire to turn the mass organization into ineffective organizations. This is in addition to the irresponsible measures designed to implement an economic policy which hindered the development plans and which limited the role of the public and cooperatives sectors in leading the national economy; extravagant expenses, weakening of economic relations with socialist countries, a desire to turn our society into a consumer society, the adoption of a demagogic non-class method in the ideological field, the propagation of concepts which ignore class struggle, and the distortion of the party's literature and documents and the struggle history of our Yemeni people.

The defense minister affirmed that our Armed Forces and other military establishments which remained loyal to the YSP at all times and which implemented the YSP's instructions proved once again that they have class strength in the hands of the party, despite what was arranged by the conspirators in the military and security establishments in order to deviate them from carrying out their main duty. The minister praised the great role played by the members of the party and by the fighters of the Armed Forces who played an honorable role next to other security establishments and the masses of people in ending the bloody coup attempt.

The minister called upon political leaders and committees, the party and youth organizations, and the fighters of the Armed Forces to work with the toilers of the country to reconstruct what was destroyed by the clique of conspiracy and sabotage and to work to raise the standard of combat readiness, and firm party and military discipline. He praised the role and support of the friendly Soviet Union, which stood with us in all phases of the struggle of our revolution and party, and the Soviet Union's principled stance which supports the march of the revolutionary process in our country. The minister affirmed that we will remain loyal to principled friendship with the Soviet Union and with the socialist countries and we will work to interpret the friendship and cooperation treaties which were signed with the socialist countries, the foremost of which is the friendly Soviet Union.

Speeches were also delivered on behalf of the naval forces' command, the Political Department, and the youth organization in the naval forces. The speeches affirmed determination to bolster the party's leadership prestige and to develop the activities and the work of the party primary organizations and to safeguard the purity of our party and the firmness of its strugglers. The speeches reaffirmed that the strugglers of the party and the fighters of the Armed Forces will work to bolster military discipline and combat readiness and to preserve arms and technical means.

A symbolic unit gathered at the monument field of the revolution's martyrs to place a wreath for the souls of the martyrs of the revolution, the homeland, and the party.

Foreign Minister Receives PLO Representative

GF140626 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, has reiterated our country's firm stand in support of the Arab Palestinian people in their just struggle to regain their legitimate rights, to self-determination, and to set up their independent state on their national soil under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

This was stated by the minister during his meeting in his office yesterday with Brother 'Abbas Zaki, PLO representative in Aden. He emphasized the need to strengthen the unity and cohesion of Palestinian revolution factions in order to face all imperialist-Zionist plots which aim to liquidate the Palestinian revolution and its gains. He also emphasized that the PDRY — party, government, and people — will continue to support the cause of the Arab Palestinian people in order to regain all their legitimate rights.

Zaki Received by Housing Minister

GF131338 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Muhammad Ahmad Salman, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of installations and housing, received in his office today brother 'Abbas Zaki, PLO representative in Aden.

During the meeting, relations between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions and the means to develop and bolster them were discussed.

Brother Salman described the nature and dimensions of the futile coupist conspiracy which was carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his fascist clique and on the material and human losses resulting from this conspiracy.

On his part, brother 'Abbas Zaki expressed his regret for the events of bloody 13 January and the regret of the Palestinian revolution with our Yemeni people. At the end of the meeting, the two sides expressed their satisfaction with the relations between the two peoples.

Denies Expulsion From Country

GF131535 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 13 Feb 86 pp 1, 17

[Text] Aden — 'Abbas Zaki, PLO representative in the PDRY, has denied reports that the new joint leadership in Yemen 2 days ago asked him to leave the country under the allegation that he intervened on the side of Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad during the events which took place there.

In a statement to *AL-KHALIJ*, 'Abbas Zaki affirmed that this report was utterly baseless and that he continues to perform his duties there with the same trust shown to him since he assumed his duties in Aden. He stated that relations with the PDRY are principled ones and based on the keenness of the organization to consolidate them with the Yemeni people, the YSP, and the state in the PDRY.

He said: Our role during the painful events was a humanitarian one and one of struggle, which has been admired by the brothers in Aden and appreciated by all the countries which we helped in saving their subjects.

'Abbas affirmed that such rumors which refer to any negative role of the PLO during the events are tendentious, aimed at insulting the historical relations which bind the Palestinian and Yemeni revolutions.

He said: We are the only community which remained in the PDRY during the events to assist in consolidating the security situation and to regain peace and stability throughout the country.

He added that he met with most officials of the joint leadership, such as Al-'Attas, Salim al-Bid, Al-Sabli, and al-Dali. He referred to the organization's keenness to enhance the historical relations between the two revolutions.

He said: We have solid interests. We feel the importance and the position of Yemen, and stemming from this view and mutual confidence, we are very keen to contribute to reducing the effects of this tragedy.

Text of AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I 'Ali Nasir Interview

GF131553 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 13 Feb 86 pp 10, 11

[Interview with PDRY "Chairman" 'Ali Nasir Muhammad by *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I* correspondent al-Fatih al-Tijani in Addis Ababa — date not given]

[Text] The meeting took place with Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad somewhere in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, at his place of residence. The meeting began at 1200 and lasted until about 1700. During these 5 hours he discussed the background of the power dispute in the PDRY. He also revealed many secrets and asked not to have them published at present. He answered 31 questions and allowed us to publish only 25 answers.

He was wearing a yellow African suit. A number of YSP Central Committee members were with him. They left him one after the other when he began to talk for the first time since the start of the events in the PDRY. The dialogue follows.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: What is the full story of the events that took place in the PDRY? What actually took place on 13 January 1986?

'Ali Nasir Muhammad: It was well known that a conspiratorial action was concocted and that it climaxed just before the convocation of the Third YSP Congress. The problem was postponed until after the convocation of the congress, when the separatists insisted on executing their ambition of controlling power and party. We exhausted all efforts to prevent them, to preserve the unity of the party, and to solve the disputed issues through dialogue in such a way that preserves the unity of the party and the people. It was evident that they were looking for an excuse to execute their plot. They escalated tension within the party and in the country. They placed their Armed Forces units on alert. They distributed large quantities of weapons to their supporters and introduced tension in the meetings of the YSP Political Bureau.

On 13 January 1986, tanks moved around the capital beginning at 0730. On 12 January they dispatched their gunmen in the houses and various quarters of the capital, Aden. A statement made by their leaders leaked, as 'Ali 'Antar said on 13 January, that 13 January is the decisive day. We also received confirmed information from the security organ about suspicious moves and a comprehensive preparation to execute the plot. From this premise, we decided to stop the plot and to arrest its mastermind. Clashes took place and resulted in the killing of some symbols of the plot. But their coupist plot was executed in accordance with the planning. The people and the militia confronted the coupist plot. Events then developed as you know.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: All the stories published give the impression that you started the fighting.

Muhammad: This is not true. I as well as the commander of the Armed Forces, were surprised to see the tanks in the streets of Aden at 0730 on 13 January 1986. When Colonel 'Abdallah 'Ali 'Ilaywah, deputy defense minister and chief of staff, asked why the tanks appeared at this early time of the day and with such huge quantities, he was told that they were on a training mission. When he asked that the tanks return to their bases in Salah al-Din camp, his orders were not executed, because in less than 1 hour the tanks spread over an area covering 40 km of the capital, Aden. The tanks took up positions in all the streets and strategic regions. That is why we tried to detain the leaders who concocted the plot before they continued the coupist plot. Clashes took place and resulted in the killing of some of them.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Is there evidence of this plot?

Muhammad: When our forces stormed the house of Defense Minister Salim Muslih, documents were found in a nylon bag there. These documents included a plan to assassinate me. The assassination was to be executed by a group of tanks that took up positions outside the Presidium building and my house so that they would blow up my car when I left the Presidium building for the YSP Central Committee headquarters to attend the meetings of the YSP Political Bureau, which was due to be held that day. These documents include the formation of the Presidium and the government as it is now formed after the conspirators lost some main leaders. It is strange that after our men took the documents to Tariq Camp and left the house, a military force loyal to Salih Muslih consisting of 90 men arrived at the house and wanted to defend it. Suddenly other forces belonging to the coupists came to the scene and believed that the force stationed in the house was loyal to us. So the latter force shelled the house and annihilated all members of the former force.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Why did you leave Aden during the first days of the events? It was said that this was a trick and that you were leaving for Moscow.

Muhammad: I was in Aden since the beginning of the events. Following the cut in communications, particularly with the outside world, I left for Abyan Governorate. I would like to answer your question by saying that there is no trick. My intention was actually to leave for Moscow as the Soviet leaders made a proposal — which we welcomed — calling on the YSP Political Bureau to hold a meeting in Moscow within the framework of the appreciated efforts of the Soviet Union to expedite attainment of conditions to a cease-fire and to start a dialogue. Yet the intransigence and refusal of the other sides prevented the [YSP Political Bureau's] departure for Moscow.

Al-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: What is the state of internal politics?

Muhammad: The painful effects of the coupist attempt plotted by the adventurous divisionist group are still overwhelming the country and no fair observer can ignore the fact that the current situation in the PDRY is that of complete suffering. Many parts of our country are suffering from the afflictions of the devastation inflicted upon it by the tanks and armored vehicles and the barbaric and haphazard destruction with various heavy weapons of installations, public squares, people's residences, government institutions, and other aspects of life which our people had gradually built with sweat following the national independence.

Despite all the misleading and ridiculous attempts by the opposing forces alleging that they are controlling power in Aden, our people completely realize who has destroyed the country and who spread fear and dread among citizens. These citizens were not expecting for one minute that the guns, artillery, and tanks — which were supposed to defend their security and stability, protect their achievements, and enhance the progressive development of society — would be directed against them to destroy their houses and cities. History will register with shining script the wonderful heroism of not only the men and youth, but those of women who bravely participated in making the streets and suburbs of Aden a mass grave for tanks.

The citizens and strugglers of our party defended the most valuable achievements of the party and the revolution security, stability, and development and progress aspects. The resistance by the popular masses and their opposition to the coupists is still continuing in Aden — as I have already mentioned — and in various other parts of the country. The suffocating political crisis which is forcefully tightening its grip on the coupists in Aden is clearly reflected by the citizens. The deterioration of the internal political life is represented in the homelessness of 50,000 children, old people, and women who have been deprived of their houses which were destroyed through organized storming operations unprecedented in Aden.

Mass camps have been established for use as prisons for thousands of our people, party strugglers, and officers and soldiers of the Armed Forces, popular police, militia, and state security. They were arrested merely because they expressed — even though in simple terms — their dissatisfaction toward the fascist clique. We have confirmed information from Aden and various parts of the country that the Armed Forces are carrying out combing operations in residential areas, searching for more strugglers and citizens to be harassed individually or collectively in schools, fields, and various buildings in Aden and Lahij used as mass prisons.

Although I do not wish to paint a dreadful picture especially for our expatriates and all the citizens of the Arab nation, my duty is to point out the facts as they are. A large number of innocent people and party strugglers who were educated and nurtured by the party and people as experienced cadres loyal to their cause of progress and prosperity were executed in a barbarous manner. Their corpses were thrown onto streets witnessed by their families and relations who were unable to bury them because of the barbaric and indiscriminating shelling and the intensity of tank and heavy artillery fire. The devastating (Luna M) missiles were used. These missiles have not been used even in some organized wars between big armies, let alone against helpless people and their safe towns as was the case in Aden and Zinjibar.

I feel that it is my duty to convey to the Arab and international public opinion — despite the painfulness of the facts — that large numbers of party strugglers, people, and armed forces are still being subjected to barbarous physical and psychological torture. Other honorable citizens are being summarily tried without reference to any law or even our people's conventions, traditions, and moral values. Mass dismissals are being carried out against prominent leaders and citizens who have status and reputation within the party and among the people. Liquidation operations against party members continue in blatant contradiction to our party's internal policy and its practical principles and developed struggle traditions which have grown and consolidated through long years of struggle and sacrifice by our people and party.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: And on the military arena?

Muhammad: Inspite of all the misleading attempts of the opposing forces, there are still large areas of the country which they have so far failed to control. We still maintain military forces in the country. But I would like to affirm our keenness to avoid more destruction and act to reach a political solution to guarantee the unity of the people, homeland, party, and Armed Forces. It should be understood that the war of tanks or the government of tanks will be able to govern the Yemeni people and will not be able to last for long after this destruction.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: And on the Arab and international arena?

Muhammad: As you well know Arab and international public opinion have condemned these barbaric massacres commited by the coupist forces on 13 January 1986. Wide sectors of Arab and international public opinion have expressed their support for the constitutional and party legitimacy. That is why I now express my thanks and gratitude for all the countries, governments, democratic organizations and press and other internal and Arab public opinion and all the countries which support love, peace, and social progress.

Allow me to thank all the honest and national writers of the Arab national progressive press, including your splendid newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, for explaining the facts and the dimension of the conspiracy against our people and our progressive system and its support for our people and their legitimate leadership. All this represents real support for our heroic people to confront the crisis imposed on them by the coupist gang by iron, fire, and terrorism.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: What is the political solution being proposed, or are you proposing to avoid a civil war in the PDRY?

Muhammad: According to my evaluation of the current situation in our country while answering a previous question, I reaffirm that we consider, as a first priority during the current situation, efforts to ensure that no more destruction and terrorism befall our peaceful people who are suffering a lot these days. We have expressed our keenness to achieve this goal since the beginning of the painful events. We have forwarded many solutions which we believe are still effective. These solutions include: ending killing, detention, torture, and making people homeless and jobless, and immediately ending the organized and nonorganized armed robbery of the state and people property. All this should coincide with the elimination of inspection posts and mass detention camps. Prior to that, all the fierce media campaigns which incite hatred and fighting among the songs of a unified people must be stopped. The tanks and all different types of heavy weapons must immediately be returned to the barracks. These are essential steps to conduct a dialogue in one of the three capitals: Sanaa, Moscow, or Addis Ababa. The solutions are:

First, to hold a complete session of the YSP Central Committee to review the developments and to judge who has been behind the recent events since 1984 and until now. Afterward the committee would elect a secretary general and a new Political Bureau.

Second, hold elections of the Supreme People's Council to elect the chairman of the Presidium and to form a new government.

Third, form a committee from the command of the Armed Forces and the other security organs to stop the continuation of the attacks, the violence, and the destruction.

Fourth, the elected constitutional and executive party organizations will carry out their duties until all the above is completed.

Fifth, a committee would be formed from the Soviet Union, the YAR, and Ethiopia to supervise and follow up these proposals in order to put the solutions into action for the interests of our people. All this is connected with the goals of the other side.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: In case these solutions and proposals are rejected, how do you conceive a solution?

Muhammad: This will lead to further division, schism, and disintegration of national unity in addition to a lack of security and stability. This will not be restricted to the PDRY. This will negatively affect security and stability in the region. Owing to our belief that there is actually a possibility to implement these solutions and proposals, we still hope that [all of us] will resort to logic and reason. We also hope that the language of dialogue will replace the language of tanks and guns for the service, for the good of our people, for their social progress, and for their aspirations for whose attainment convoys of martyrs and huge sacrifices were presented.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: To what extent can concessions be made in return for reaching a political solution to the issue?

Muhammad: All people of sound thinking will agree with me that the proposals we launched represent the minimum accepted limit to rescue our people, I suppose. That is why any talk about concessions means forfeiting the interests of our people, and of safeguarding, preserving, and ensuring the future of their progressive experience.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USUBU'I: You visited Sanaa, Damascus, Tripoli, and Algiers. What are the positions of these countries and the other Arab countries?

Muhammad: We made cordial visits to these countries. We were amiably received. We found in these Arab capitals complete understanding and solidarity to the explanation we made on the current situation in the PDRY. We express our sublime gratitude to the positions and the feelings of brotherly solidarity demonstrated by Brother Presidents 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Hafiz al-Asa, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and Chadli Benjedid. In the course of our visits, we also held fraternal, warm, and amicable meetings with a number of brother leaders of Arab national liberation movement factions. Views were exchanged with them on the painful events of the PDRY. During these meetings the various Arab progressive and national organizations and parties whom we conferred with expressed their constant and principled support for the progressive struggle of our people and their regime. They also stressed backing for the legitimate leadership of the YSP and the state in the PDRY. It is worth reporting that brother presidents, together with leaders of the progressive and national Arab organizations and parties whom I met, expressed their readiness to exert further efforts to prevent further destruction and to terminate the excruciation, torture, and homelessness which our people currently suffer from.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: What about the positions of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries?

Muhammad: There is no need to elaborate on the nature of the strong principled and strategic relations that link us with the friendly Soviet Union, and the other socialist countries and their fraternal parties. This matter is well known and we are proud of it. Out of this relationship, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries played an important role which is appreciated. This role was represented in the efforts to bring about a ceas- fire — since the very start of the events — and the repeated calls to hold dialogue. Such efforts always met with deliberate intransigence and no response from the separatist coupist forces as they were referred to by the recent statement issued by *PRAVDA*. This statement expressed unlimited support for the policy of our YSP. We laud the just internationalist positions which have continuously been adopted by the Soviet Union toward our country and people. We also laud, in particular, the keenness of the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc countries to prevent any foreign imperialist interference in the internal affairs of our people during the recent events and developments. The Soviet Union is a sincere friend of our people and revolution — as are all the peoples of our Arab nation — who strongly supports all their just and liberation issues. We firmly believe that the Soviet Union will always side with our people and our YSP. The struggle for the good and the progress of our people, in addition to rescuing them from their bitter ordeal, is closely associated with the firm principled alliance with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: There have been reports about a refusal to set a date fo the departure of your envoy Abu Bakr Ba Dhib, member of the YSP Political Bureau, to Moscow.

Muhammad: I would like to emphasize that nothing as such was turned down. The contacts are continuous through various firm channels. Continuous coordination and exchange of views is under way.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: It was reported that the forces opposed to you received weapons from the Soviet Union to make up for the losses sustained during the battles. How true are these reports?

Muhammad: In the melee of the events, fabricated reports were circulated. Part of the imperialist media and propaganda focused on defaming the Soviet Union's position toward the events in our country. Knowledgable people are aware of the goals behind this. Imperialists, particularly the United States, are looking for a cover and a justification for interference not only in our country but, as it is well known, it looks for other opportunities like this in various parts of our Arab world and the rest of the world. Replying to these false reports about the position of the Soviet Union toward this situation or other situations, I stress that the Soviet Union wanted us to attain a cease-fire since the very beginning and to reach a peaceful solution to the issue in addition to prevention of any imperialist foreign military interference in the internal affairs of our country and people. This position enjoys our support and fully coincides with our views.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: In case you resort again to fighting, will Aden become another "Afghanistan" particularly after the Soviet Union stopped the process of evacuating its nationals and began to bring back its experts?

Muhammad: I cannot find similarities between the situation in the PDRY and Afghanistan. I reiterate what I said earlier with regard to the stand of the Soviet Union toward the current situations.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: How is it that important units of the Armed Forces were not loyal to the legitimacy? Did you know about this, and why did you remain silent on this issue?

Muhammad: The time defined for this interview may not let me relate much of the details which constitute a necessary introduction to understanding what happened on and after 13 January. This can be attributed to the fact that all the presumptuous acts against the constitutional and party legitimacy, in addition to the execution of sabotage acts that harm the unity of the YSP, the Armed Forces, and the people, and the fanning of tribal, divisionist, and coalition grudges within the YSP and the society as a whole and other activities that were executed by YSP and state adventurous elements can be traced back many years. All activities we know and closely follow were confronted by the organs in charge of protecting constitutional and party legitimacy. We were always, out of unionist and positive spirit, keen to make the language of constructive criticism and dialogue prevail within the framework of the party and legitimate state institutions. On various occasions punitive measures were adopted against some of these divisionist and reactionary symbols to deter and correct them. Yet these elements continued to create trouble, fan differences, and violate rules and regulations which organize the internal life of the party and state. These elements resorted to various conspiratorial acts. Among these adventurous acts which contrdict the principles of the revolution, its traditions, and the rules of the party and the state is 'Ali Antar's exploitation — knowing that he is one of the basic symbols of the coupist attempt — of the party confidence when he was appointed defense minister. During the years 1978-1981 he liquidated a huge number of officers and even soldiers from the various military units under various justifications. He restructured the military units in an exposed tribal method. Despite the remarks made with regard to the gravity of this action and the continuous criticism from the party organs and the state, nothing deterred him from his acts. These acts gradually entrenched the spirit of division and schism within the society and the Armed Forces on retarded tribal bases. There was no other alternative but to remove 'Ali 'Antar from the Defense Ministry portfolio. Later, through the establishment of unprincipled and dishonorable alliances, he continued his destructive trend — this trend possessed him. Salih Muslih, who was later appointed defense minister, cooperated with him for inflicting further destruction of the Armed Forces units. Although many forces — such as the air force, the naval force and other brigades in various regions in the country — remained loyal to the YSP and to the legitimacy and remained imperious to clandestine and organized tribal infiltration led by the coupist leaders, they [the plotters] succeeded in a conspiratorial way in liquidating a number of the military commanders on tribal bases. They also succeeded in transfering and consolidating the schism within the ranks of the Armed Forces. They also directed their efforts to convert the Armed Forces from a national institution — whose role is to defend the sovereignty of the country and its independence, and to protect the progressive regime in addition to the economic and social achievements of the people — to an institution in which some units are plagued with tribal spirit and division. They also succeeded in introducing some tribal elements in some units, such as the armored units, realizing that through their conspiratorial spirit the importance of this force is that it is a force that can be aimed at the revolution and the citizens instead of defending them. Thus, they moved from the point of threatening to use force to the point of executing their vile plot on 13 January 1986. What I am interested in pointing out is that most of the Armed Forces' units stood — as they are still standing — by the legitimate leadership. That is why I am confident that there is no future for tribal affiliations in the Armed Forces and in our society, which will eliminate this disease — such a disease that contravenes all the cultural, progressive, and noble values which took root through the years in the conscience of tens of thousands of party, state, and Armed Forces' strugglers in addition to all of society.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Currently, you are preparing to hold the meetings of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee. Can you give us an idea as to the number of members of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee who support the legitimacy?

Muhammad: Long before the events, it was known and affirmed both inside and outside our party that the majority of members of the YSP Central Committee — the highest leadership body of our party — supports the correct trend of the party which has applied and defended the safe and correct internal policies which have resulted in many achievements well known to our people. This trend is also based on the peaceful and constructive foreign policy followed and defended by the party. The party defended the security of this policy which embodies the party and constitutional legitimacy and which has contributed much toward bolstering the pillars of mutual trust among the countries and peoples of our region. This policy has also contributed toward consolidating peace and preventing anxiety, instability, and the danger of war in the region's countries and for its people.

This correct policy has been widely and extensively supported by the party, government organs, popular organizations, all the people, and the friends of our people and their preogressive experiment. The tangible and solid proof for the legitimate leadership's enjoyment of a majority in the leadership organs of the party and government is that the divisionist clique has resorted to grouping and conspiratorial work outside the legitimate organs. They have resorted to causing confusion, instigating backward disputes, and using the remnants of the social relations inherited from the era of the colonialists. They have used these methods as poisonous weapons against the legitimacy and the party and state laws. Perhaps I should mention another example proving that the leadership majority supports and rejects the legitimacy [as published]. The majority is the legitimacy itself and consists of the shaky formations of the assumed leadership bodies which have been recently established by the coupist group in Aden. Through simple calculations and because we know the names of the real cadres who are members of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee and the Council of Ministers and who have been denuded of their positions — or who have not been named, but confirmed reports say that either they have been executed or are being imprisoned and tortured or are under house arrest — we can easily realize that the bodies established by the clique do not represent the national unity, party unity, and unity of the people.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: We offer our condolences for the loss of your son Jamal. It has been said that other members of your family were killed. How did that happen?

Muhammad: The fate of my son Jamal and that of any member of my family is the same as the fate of the thousands of our people and our honorable party strugglers and cadres who sacrificed their lives defending the revolution. I feel boundlessly proud for the modest contributions made by me and my family — just like the rest of the citizens and families — toward the protection of the supreme interests of our great people and their glorious revolution.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Salim Salih al-Bid has urged the YAR Government to disarm you. What is your comment on that?

Muhammad: Such a request is meaningless if we realize that we do not possess any weapons in the northern part of the homeland. All our strugglers and their weapons are in the PDRY. We still have out forces and arms in locations within the PDRY, including its governorates. The brothers in Aden know that.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Do you believe the situation between the northern and southern part of Yemen could explode?

Muhammad: I have discussed earlier the trends and policies we have been solidifying over the years and our responsibilities toward relations with the northern part of the homeland. Even the shy statements of some elements of this swaying clique could not deny or cast doubt on our role to consolidate this. It is an achievement which we do not hide. We are always proud of it. Therefore, without hesitation, our role is to confront any explosion of the relations between the two parts of the homeland whatever the reasons or the pretexts. In this regard, and according to our knowledge of many facts — which are not suitable to disclose now — we would say that time will reveal the falseness of these allegations on their keenness to establish correct and solid relations between the two parts of the homeland.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Do you expect the crisis to spread throughout the PDRY in the event of new fighting?

Muhammad: We do not expect such a thing. We act in such a way that all the efforts of the brothers and friends would come together to stop the occurence of such a situation.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: What are the possibilities of foreign intervention?

Muhammad: The foreign imperialist reactionary intervention in our internal affairs will be met with fierce resistence by our masses and our party. We believe that what happened in our country is purely an internal issue concerning only the Yemeni people and its YSP. We are totally confident that our allies, our friends, our revolution, and our people will not stand by helpless if there are any forms of intervention by the imperialist powers. We have unlimited confidence in the capability of our people and our party to struggle for the cause of the people, the homeland, the party, and the issue of maintaining and developing the great and prominent accomplishments of the glorious 14 October Revolution.

We are very optimistic that the night of terror and barbaric torture will not remain for long, and that our people are experienced enough in the struggle and have revolutionary expertise and believe in its just cause. All this justifies our confidence in our ability to win.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: It has been said that you have met with Muhammad 'Ali Haytham and Husayn 'Alshal, members of the national group abroad to coordinate your efforts. Is this true?

Muhammad: They are trying to circulate such rumors to distort the reputation of the party before mine. We are the ones who dismissed such people from authority after being ousted by the masses. Such people will never have a chance to stand up again. We will not extend our hands to them, because our power lies in the YSP and the Yemeni people.

Do you know that the first attempt to assassinate me in my office took place on 22 May 1972, and was plotted by Muhammad 'Ali Haytham, who sent a well-known struggler of our party to my office and whom I met warmly and seated in my office. At that moment the telephone rang and when I stood up to answer it he shot me in the stomach.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: How do you explain the presence of the great number of tanks which attacked the Governorate of Abyan, especially when most of the tanks of the Armed Forces were destroyed?

Muhammad: Our information affirms that they have withdrawn all weapons stationed at the border which were deployed there at a certain time to defend the homeland. They have mobilized all their loyal forces and sent them to Aden.

UAE

Denmark's Charge D'Affaires Asked to Leave

AU141225 Paris AFP in English 1217 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Copenhagen, Feb 14 (AFP) — The Danish charge d'affaires in Abu Dhabi, Erik Svenningsen, was declared persona non grata by the United Arab Emirates late last month, with no explanation, officials said today.

The Danish Foreign Ministry was unable to find out why Mr Svenningsen, who had been in the Emirates since 1981, was asked to leave. Countries are not obliged to give a reason when expelling a diplomat.

Sources said the ministry here was not investigating the incident.

'Arafat Arrives in Cairo, Met by Al-Majid

NC131440 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Cairo from Baghdad this afternoon on a visit that will last several days. He was met at the airport by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and by Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first undersecretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs. A number of PLO officials in Cairo were also on hand at the airport to receive 'Arafat.

In a statement upon his arrival, 'Arafat said that he is happy to visit Egypt. He asserted that he has come with an open heart to discuss everything that concerns the Palestinian revolution and people — their circumstances, problems, pains, and victories.

'Arafat stated that he was in Baghdad for 3 days, during which he met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, who gave him complete assurance on the military situation. He added that Iraq is confronting the huge Iranian offensive.

'Arafat said that he had informed the Iraqi president of the Palestinian people's support for the Iraqi Army and people against this attack because any aggression against Iraq is considered to be aggression against a part of the Arab nation.

Answering a question on the U.S. proposals on the Middle East issue, 'Arafat affirmed that he will discuss them with President Husni Mubarak.

Asked about the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, 'Arafat replied that they were suspended because of the U.S. intransigence and bias favoring Israel, which denies that 5 million Palestinians have the right to exist. In the UN Security Council, the United States used the veto three times in one month to protect Israel.

Answering a question on the PLO view of the call for an international conference and on whether he expects it to be held soon, 'Arafat said that this depends on the international situation. 'Arafat's final comment was that his talks with President Mubarak will begin this evening.

Meets With Mubarak

NC131548 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat this evening. The meeting took place at President Mubarak's office in Al-'Urubah Palace.

Mubarak Comments on Meeting

NC131720 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1658 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has declared that the U.S. State Department comment made on Monday is encouraging and "we must study it to see what can be done."

In a statement after his meeting with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, President Mubarak added that the U.S. remark is a good step forward, but we must discuss it.

President Mubarak indicated that in his 30-minute meeting with 'Arafat they reviewed current events. The president said that he will meet with 'Arafat again on Saturday evening.

Following the meeting, 'Arafat was asked what he expects from his visit to Cairo. He replied: "I expect it to be completely constructive."

Saudi Prince Proposes Fahd-Mubarak Meeting

NC121640 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — Saudi Prince Turki ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, a brother of Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, has declared that Egyptian-Saudi relations are a strategic necessity for the security of the two countries. They are also necessary for a balanced relationship in the Arab world. The prince notes that there is no one in Saudi Arabia who does not wish to see Arab solidarity quickly restored, and adds that Arab solidarity without Egypt is meaningless and inconsequential.

In an interview to be published in the 14 February edition of the magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR*, Prince Turki says that for the sake of Arab interests, there is no alternative but for King Fahd and President Husni Mubarak to meet in the very near future, because matters cannot be postponed any longer. He adds that if things remain as they are now, the Arab world will only reap total chaos, which will devour everything.

Prince Turki further says that if U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev were able to set aside their ideological differences and sit down face to face for the sake of U.S.-Soviet interests, then Arab leaders should be able to meet to settle their differences.

On the nature of his visit to Egypt, Prince Turki explains that it is a private visit but does have its purpose. He says that President Mubarak received him and that they discussed the Arab situation and Egyptian-Saudi relations. Prince Turki indicates that King Fahd knows of the mission and the visit, and has given his blessing.

Prime Minister Lutfi Returns From London

NC132009 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi returned to Cairo tonight, following medical treatment in London. He was met at the airport by ministers and senior state officials.

Gabonese State Minister Leaves for Home

NC131103 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — Martin Bongo, Gabonese minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, left Cairo this morning to return home after a 4-day visit here. In a predeparture statement, the Gabonese minister said that he was pleased to have met President Mubarak, to whom he had delivered a message from Gabonese President Omar Bongo.

Martin Bongo also praised Egypt's drive for peace in the Middle East and its supportive stands on African issues. Finally, he stated that a mutual desire to further bilateral cooperation was evident throughout his talks in Cairo.

Sudan Party Official on Mubarak Meeting, Federation

NC131825 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1650 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid Ahmad, member of the Sudanese Unionist Democratic Party Executive Bureau, has called for the consolidation of Egyptian-Sudanese unity in accordance with a formula acceptable to the two peoples.

Speaking at a press conference in Cairo today, Dr Ahmad Al-Sayyid Ahmad said that his party favors a federation between Egypt and Sudan to fulfill the two peoples' aspirations. He added that right from the outset his party has believed that the integration process between the two peoples is the first step in the long march toward unity because [words indistinct] the two peoples' aspirations and history. He pointed out that his party wanted integration to concentrate on economic action, production, and investment and felt that Egyptian and Sudanese citizens should be made to see the value of this process so that they could embark on joint economic action. However, integration has failed to achieve this so far, he said. He noted that there are 340 million feddans in Sudan that have not yet been exploited. They could be an important source for all sorts of crops, such as wheat, cotton, sugarcane, fruits, etc.

Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid Ahmad stressed that in his meeting with President Husni Mubarak, the latter had said he shared his view that Sudan's problems were Egypt's own in view of the eternal ties between the two peoples of the Nile Valley, their strategic ties, and their common hopes and suffering.

He added that his party's program seeks to strengthen and consolidate Egyptian-Sudanese relations so as to unite the Nile Valley, which is the natural starting point for overall Arab unity and the center for solving the Palestinian problem under PLO leadership.

He said that his party is the product of a merger between the People's Democratic Party and the Unionist Democratic Party led by Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Ab Idin al-Hindi. The merger took place on 19 January. He said he was pleased to see partisan unanimity in Egypt concerning the basis for unity of the Nile Valley.

It is recalled that Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid Ahmad is visiting Egypt at the head of a party delegation. He was received by President Husni Mubarak yesterday [as received] and has also met with Egyptian officials and party leaders.

Sudan's Siwar al-Dhahab on Relations With Egypt

NC122143 Cairo MENA in English 1922 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 12 (MENA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab today underlined the deep Egyptian-Sudanese relations and referred to cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

In a statement to the MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY (MENA), General Siwar al-Dhahab said that elections in the Sudan would be held on time and that the Transitional Military Council and the government would do their best so that the elections might be held in an atmosphere of security.

Stressing the Sudan's adherence to the democratic approach, Siwar al-Dhahab said, "We are keen that the Sudan will be a model in applying democracy despite the difficulties it is facing represented in the problem of economic situation and the constant flow of refugees."

The chairman of the Military council said there are contacts with John Garang, chairman of the Popular Front for the Liberation of the Sudan, to partake in the national reconciliation conference and agree upon a final ceasefire in the south. "The outcome of these contacts has not been known so far," he said.

He pointed out that new president of Uganda, Yoweri Museveni, had expressed his readiness to mediate with Garang by virtue of the deep-rooted friendship binding Museveni with Garang.

22 Government Officials Involved in Bribery Case

NC131959 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — Counselor Muhammad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jundi, the Egyptian public prosecutor, has disclosed that 22 senior officials in the Ministry of Industry have been involved in accepting bribes totalling 5.5 million pounds from a West German firm. In exchange, the officials were to award the company the contract for the construction of a paper mill in the city of Qus in Qina Province, Upper Egypt. In addition to the German company, three other companies — Canadian, Japanese, and French — had submitted bids.

The public prosecutor said at a news conference today that he has ordered the imprisonment of 12 of these senior officials and the arrest of the other 10 for interrogation in connection with two charges, bribery and deliberate misuse of public funds, now that the public funds investigation department discovered irregularities in the process of awarding the contract for the construction of this mill.

The public prosecutor explained that the German company, through its agent or representative, a German national, and through its other agent, an Egyptian, had offered bribes, the equivalent of 5.5 million Egyptian pounds in German marks, to the members of the bids committee who were responsible for the project. These committee members include the first undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry and the deputy chairman of the industrialization organization, who chaired the committee dealing with the bids. The latter was pensioned off last Friday after reaching the legal retirement age, but had been asked to stay on until the construction of the mill was completed.

The public prosecutor said that this official was found in possession of a contract making him a consultant to the German company for a fee of 500,000 marks a year in exchange for approving the company's bid.

Counselor Muhammad ‘Abd al-‘Aziz al-Jundi said that the principal defendants under investigation are the chairmen of the boards of directors of two Egyptian companies — a chemicals firm and a food company — in addition to senior officials in Egypt's General Industrialization Organization sitting in the committee that deals with bids.

The public prosecutor noted that a number of the defendants were caught with the German company's representative at the latter's room in an Egyptian hotel. They were there to discuss how to divide up the bribes. The German company's representative was found to be in possession of a list with the names of the defendants and the amount of the bribe to each.

As part of the anti-corruption campaign in Egypt, the public prosecutor today ordered the seizure of the property of Dr Mustafa Al-Sa‘id, former Egyptian Economy Minister; Rif‘at al-Bashir, former undersecretary of the Ministry; and ‘Abd al-Khaliq al-Mahjub, former ministry expert. He also ordered seized the property of their wives and minor children, which means that they cannot administer the property or dispose of it.

The public prosecutor also decided to bar Dr Mustafa al-Sa‘id from travelling abroad until investigations in the case of funds seized from currency traders in Egypt are completed. Dr Rif‘at al-Bashir and ‘Abd al-Khaliq al-Mahjub are currently serving a 10-year prison term after conviction by an Egyptian court of taking bribes in a case involving the repayment of funds to currency traders. They were also fined 10,000 Egyptian pounds each.

Concluding his news conference, the public prosecutor stressed that the state is intent on fighting corruption and all forms of deviation whoever the wrongdoers are. He said that the Egyptian security services are doing their duty in this respect in cooperation with the Public Prosecutor's Office, which wants to see justice served. The public prosecutor noted that in the last 2 months he has handled 700 cases involving the misuse of public funds.

Petroleum Authority Announces Oil Price Reductions

NC131133 Cairo MENA in English 1030 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text]Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — The general Egyptian authority for petroleum today announced prices of Egyptian crude oil exports in February.

Price of the Suez gulf crude dropped to 19 dollars per barrel from 22 dollars and 20 cents in the first half of January last while Bala‘im crude fell to 18 dollars per barrel from 21 dollars and 50 cents. The Ra's Badran crude went down to 17 dollars and 80 cents per barrel from 21 dollars and 20 cents and Ra's Gharib crude oil price plummeted to 16 dollars and 50 cents from 19 dollars and 30 cents.

Minister of Petroleum ‘Abd al-Hadi Qandil had announced on February 7 that Egypt reduced its crude oil production last month.

AL-AHRAM Warns Against Abusing Democracy

PM121637 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 9 Feb 86 p 7

[Salamah Ahmad Salamah "Significance of Events" column: "Pains of Democratic Change"]

[Excerpts] The experiment with democratic change in Egypt is facing a crisis recognized by everybody; it is recognized by the opposition parties as well as by the majority [NDP] party. It is also felt by public opinion, a feeling mixed with great anxiety that the crisis might reach a point at which it will be difficult to resolve. The public sensed this feeling of anxiety in President Mubarak's warning when he pointed out the horrible and serious consequences that he fears might result if the practise of party politics is not put in the right context. But the public did not understand this as a threat to abandon democracy and return to to the previous state of affairs, although certain partisan forces wanted to understand it this way. Rather it was understood as a general invitation to all the political parties and forces eager for the experiment to succeed to abandon the practices that have created an atmosphere of tension and emotion so as to spare the process of democratic change a serious setback if things go out of control.

Speaking objectively, it can be said that the serious consequences of the failure of any democratic experiment in a developing country like Egypt are a likelihood. We see this happening in many countries and to many democratic experiments. It is not because the rulers in those countries want this to happen but because the political forces have been unable to reconcile the ability of the political and social system to bear the pressure of crises and mistakes with how far these forces can go on escalating and aggravating problems, creating difficulties and exaggerating them, calling for rapid changes and reforms, and even seeking to assume power under the pretext that they are capable of solving many of the problems and crises. Aiming for such objectives and indulging in such practices within reason and in societies that are democratically, socially, and economically stable cannot lead to serious consequences or pose a threat to democracy. More often than not, they help to achieve the desired reform or change in certain wrong policies or even cause a rift within the ruling party from which the opposition could benefit in order to strengthen itself preparatory to taking power.

This is what could happen in a stable democracy, but the fact that we all seem to forget is that Egypt is still in the early beginnings of sound democratic change. If we do not keep this change to its correct path and straighten out its course, it will lead us to the same liberal democratic experiment that prevailed before the revolution, with all its faults and mistakes and with the same practices that led to its failure.

It is true that five of the six political parties were established after the revolution and none of them existed previously either in form or in leadership. Yet, we cannot deny the fact that there is a political heritage of tradition and practices just as there is continuity in the political and popular background against which these parties operate, to the extent that it would sometimes seem to the objective observer as if the revolutionary era, which many think has dug and tilled the soil of political society and resown it, has done no more than remove the surface of the political soil that had become fallow and infertile without replacing it with a more fertile, growth-giving soil.

Therefore, the fears regarding the consequences that we are warning against are justified when we observe the emergence of the same faults and shortcomings that existed in party politics before the revolution. The party system in its proper sense is almost completely lacking in most of the current Egyptian parties, including the NDP, which enjoys great support and stability. All these parties without exception are characterized by individualism that makes a party more a "coterie" that is not governed by one single or harmonious political course or thought but bound together by transient intermingled interests. The setting up of parties is still being done from top to bottom and party cadres are chosen in accordance with criteria that are far from sound political party criteria. This is in addition to the absence of free election in the selection of these cadres at all levels.

The fact is that the rate of illiteracy and the level of economic backwardness have not changed much from before but have remained and are having the same effect they had before the revolution. Although we may admit that there is some improvement in the rate of illiteracy and a slight change in the distribution of wealth, we are still facing the same irrational political behavior and the resort by party powers to the use of family influence, economic influence, or even government bureaucratic influence to enhance their power.

The conclusion we reach here is that the tree of democracy, under whose shade we live in Egypt, is still small, weak, has few branches, and its roots are still close to the surface. It is so easy to be uprooted by storms and crises. The problem does not lie only in storms and dangers that are blowing on it from abroad and which one cannot fail to see, but also in the weakness of the Egyptian soil caused by political vicissitudes. It also lies in the economic environment that, in the past years, suffered from the sequence of changes from open-door and closed-door experiments.

The current democratic experiment in Egypt is suffering from nay shortcomings. It may be claimed that the real political forces are not fairly or properly represented in the People's Assembly. It may be said democratic reform is in dire need of constitutional reform and reform of election laws so as to ensure greater freedom and the abolition of the remaining exceptional laws. But all this does not justify the attempts to settle old scores at the expense of the new conditions nor does it justify inflaming crises and starting fires with the aim of destroying the society from within, or claiming the ability to provide solutions for all our complex problems and the more complex Arab problems.

We do not think that the present crisis, which the opposition newspapers and writers have inflamed and which prompted President Mubarak to issue several warnings, can be overcome merely through resorting to political palliatives or by forgetting it or by watering it down. Overcoming this crisis and whatever crises might arise in the future calls for considering once again the proposals already put forward regarding the need to agree on a national action plan or a national front in which the parties can agree on defining the objectives of this stage and lay down fundamental lines for it in order to protect the democratic experiment and ensure its continuity, progress, and growth.

The empty slogan that says that democracy is an option from which there will be no change is not true because the experiments of nations and the history of peoples prove quite the contrary. Democracy, in the final analysis, remains a dynamic process that is likely to grow and flourish and, by the same token, it is likely to shrivel and break. This does not depend on the will of one single individual or a group of people but on the will of the whole nation.

NDP Expresses Support for Iraqi People

NC131734 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — The NDP Secretariat General has declared its solidarity with and support for the Iraqi people in their struggle to safeguard their territorial integrity and to unite their national soil. In a statement issued today, the Secretariat denounced the new Iranian offensive against Iraq and called on the Islamic, nonaligned, and peace-loving states, and international organizations and agencies to do their utmost to end the fighting with negotiations, dialogue, and concilitation.

Program on Media Cooperation With Jordan Signed

NC131544 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Egypt and Jordan signed an executive program for media cooperation this morning. Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif and Muhammad al-Khatib, his Jordanian counterpart, signed the program.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Naval Attacks Reported

JN141043 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1020 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces are continuing to deal destructive blows to enemy forces on land, at sea, and in the air. Contributing to destroying the enemy and defeating it in all fields, our brave naval forces carried out the following operations:

1. At 2245 [1945 GMT] yesterday our naval forces directed a destructive blow to a command ship in the Kowr-e Musa area. The ship exploded and was sunk in Arab Gulf waters.

2. At 2355 yesterday a blow was dealt to a gunboat near the Khowr-e Musa area. It sank immediately.

3. At 0155 today our naval forces dealt another destructive strike to another gunboat situated in the Nowruz oil field. It sank immediately.

Our heroic naval forces continue to spread their control over the norther Arab Gulf waters and are continuing to give good support for our land forces, which are continuing to advance toward areas where the enemy is present.

God bless the strong men of the navy. We thank God for his support.

[Dated] 14 February 1986

Forces Reported 'Advancing'

JN131534 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1521 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Basra, 13 Feb (INA) — The INA team in the southern sector has said that the Iraqi forces are advancing in various directions against the Iranian forces which crossed the Shatt al-'Arab waterway in the VII Army Corps sector. The team added that the Iraqi advancement is aimed at fragmenting and annihilating all the Iranian forces in the area. Military commanders have described the battles raging in this sector as epics in which the Iraqi forces are fighting with great heroism.

'Panic' Reported Among Iranian Forces

JN141024 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Basra, 14 Feb (INA) — The INA mission at the front says that Iraqi forces are continuing to advance to destroy Iranian units. The mission said that Iraqi firepower is striking at the Iranian forces that crossed Shatt al-'Arab, north of the Arab Gulf. The mission affirmed that bodies of Iranian troops are covering the battlefield. Military equipment has monitored Iranian SOS calls, showing panic among the Iranian remnant forces.

Communique No 2,115 Issued

JN131830 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Communique No 2,115 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 13 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Through their heroic performance during these days, the humiliating defeats that they have inflicted and will inflict and the heavy losses that they have made the despotic, suspect, and covetous clique sustain, our valiant Armed Forces, thanks to their boundless capabilities which have enabled the Iraqis to safeguard the soil of the homeland and to record the most brilliant pages in the annals of our nation's modern history, confirm the true mettle of the new Iraqi individual and express the Iraqi individual's legitimate aspirations and his deep-rooted affiliation to a noble nation, a rejuvenating civilization, and a glorious past.

O Iraqis, victory has been settled in your consciences and minds since the beginning of the aggression. It is being settled on the ground during these glorious days. Your forces are standing fast in the face of desperate offensives by the frustrated enemy and are transforming them into tragedies. While doing so, your Armed Forces pursue their activities in terms of counteroffensives and interceptions. Your enemy is sustaining heavy losses in both cases, losses which will shake his regime and sweep it away. The land will remain yours and the road to victory will continue to be your lot. Glory and victory will always be yours because you have right on your side.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. The frustrated enemy carried out a series of desperate attempts to lift the siege from his forces which are between our forces and the coast. Our valiant men, in a unique act of heroism, succeeded in foiling all the enemy's attempts. All the troops which tried to approach our positions have been wiped out, while our artillery poured fierce fire on the narrow corner in which the enemy has been besieged. After exhausting the enemy forces last night and inflicting huge losses on them, which the enemy failed to evacuate, our forces continued to advance on several axes this morning, intensively backed by the eagles of the air, the helicopter gunship knights, and the brave men of our artillery.

Our forces succeeded in reaching the targets which had been set for them with great efficiency, setting the ground on fire, and forcing the enemy to retreat and reduce its front in various directions. Our forces also placed the enemy in a desperate and constricting position. The enemy forces sustained bitter losses all last night and today, losses which the Khomeyniites have not witnessed in the past in spite of the many defeats they have sustained and the many losses they have suffered. The situation has completely changed in favor of our forces and the enemies have nothing else to do but wait for the moment of total collapse, God willing.

2. Our giant Air Force continues to sow certain death among enemy remnants and to destroy enemy positions, weapons, and military hardware. The eagles of the air, while dealing crushing

blows to enemy forces in the battlefield, do not forget the enemy's vital targets or military installations. Since dawn today and up to the issuance of this communique, the brave eagles of the air carried out the following heroic missions:

a. Our planes made 416 air raids against enemy troop concentrations, reaping the corrupt heads with their missiles all through today and wreaking destruction on any troop concentrations the Khomeyniites have assembled for committing aggression against the land of principles.

b. At 1032 [0732 GMT] today, our planes carried out a devastating raid on Khark Island, setting their targets ablaze.

c. At 1230 [0930 GMT] today, several of our planes raided Ahvaz airport, pounding the remainder of the Iranian Air Force and the Iranian helicopters and destroying airport facilities.

d. At 1303 [1003 GMT] today, our planes raided the Ganaveh pipeline intersection, hitting their targets and setting them ablaze.

e. At 1355 [1055 GMT] today, two enemy helicopters were sighted in the skies over the Arab Gulf. Our heroic eagles intercepted them and pounced on them with their missiles. Our eagles shot them down and they were engulfed in the waters of our Arab Gulf.

After carrying out all these missions, our brave eagles safely returned with their planes to the homeland crowned with laurels of victory.

3. The brave men of our naval forces have excelled all through last night and today. An enemy force, using nine boats, tried to attack the Al-Bakr and Al-'Amiq ports. Our heroic men of the force which is entrusted with the defense of the two ports, backed by our gunboats and the Navy's air force, sunk seven of the nine boats with the enemy personnel they were carrying. Other enemy elements were captured while the other two boats fled. Blessed be the men of our heroic force in the Al-Bakr and Al-'Amiq ports.

At 1032 [0732 GMT] today, the men of our navy shot down an enemy plan, an F-4, which crashed in flames and whose debris fell on the Shatt al-'Arab banks near Abadan port.

4. The helicopter gunship knights have had their share of Khomeyniite heads. They continued to pound enemy troop concentrations, weapons, and military hardware in the VII Army Corps sector with their missiles all through today, offering the best support for our ground forces which were continuing to put pressure on enemy forces. Our helicopter gunship knights carried out 284 combat sorties, during which they achieved the following:

a. At 1600 [1300 MGT] today they succeeded in shooting down an enemy Cobra helicopter. With this, the total number of enemy aircraft shot down today is four planes, one fighter plane, and three helicopters.

b. Twelve large vehicles were destroyed.

c. One enemy personnel carrier was destroyed.

d. Two four-barrel machineguns were destroyed.

e. One antiaircraft gun was destroyed.

f. Several enemy boats were destroyed.

g. Several enemy troop concentrations were destroyed.

5. Confirmed enemy losses in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah following the crushing of the enemy offensive on the night before last are as follows:

a. Seven hundred and sixty five enemy troops killed.

b. Three enemy troop concentrations wiped out.

c. Many enemy elements captured.

d. Two tank carriers destroyed, one carrying a self-propelled gun and the second carrying a tracked vehicle.

3. Seven boats destroyed.

f. Seven ammunition dumps destroyed.

G. The following serviceable weapons were captured: tanks, 18 (GC) rifles, 7 RPG-7 guns, 1 (BKC) machinegun, and other military hardware of various types.

6. The criminal enemy shelled civilian areas in the Abu al-Khasib district with long-range artillery, damaging 26 houses and 1 civilian car.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 February 1986

Communique No 2,116 Issued

JN140909 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0814 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Communique No 2,116 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 14 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O birds of prey, follow us to the battlefield. O Zealous sons of Iraq, your capability has been manifested. Time is revealing your true character. The determination of our men appears whenever our enemies indulge in evil.

We have often told the ignorant, suspect Iranian rulers that they will reap only bitter defeats and will meet only with death that will wipe thousands upon thousands of them. The land of the two rivers has always been a burial ground for all wicked aggressors. Our people have remained and will always remain fighting with one hand and planting with the other. The Iraqis' conviction, pride, honor, and glory will remain and their life will be free and dignified because they defend right, seek virtue and honor, and build and fight for the sake of God and man.

O glorious Iraqis, while our forces in the VII Army Corps are aborting all enemy attempts to find a way out of its impasse; while our forces are day and night continuing to cut off the heads of the aggressors in an unprecedented manner throughout history, advancing to liberate the land and tightening their grip on the enemy forces; and as an expression of our overwhelming superiority, the forces of the heroic III Army Corps led by Staff Major General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid, assisted by Al-Husayn Forces under Staff Brigadier General Yalshin 'Umar 'Adil and the brave 109th Formation under the command of Staff Colonel Sahib Muhammad 'Allawh and the 49th Formation under the command of Staff Colonel Sami 'Abbas Mijwil, have carried out the will of the brave men. They launched a resolute, lighting attack on positions previously occupied by the enemy in the southern Majnun oil field. Our brave forces completely wiped out enemy forces along several kilometers in these positions. All enemy equipment, weapons, and supplies were captured. The enemy's presence was annihiliated. The Khomeyniites howled. They leveled abuse at each other, cursing Khomeyni and his regime for involving them in aggression against Iraq.

Our forces immediately consolidated their new liberated positions. The situation was finally and completely settled in favor of our victorious forces.

God bless the men of the III Army Corps —commanders, officers, and other ranks. God is great! God is great! God is great! O God, You have given us grace of victory. Give us further victories. You are a generous giver.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 February 1986

Arab League Committee Issues Statement on War

JN131200 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1043 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — The Arab seven-member committee entrusted with following up Iraq-Iran war developments has warned the Iranian regime against the dire consequences which the continuing Iranian aggression against Iraq will have on Arab-Iranian relations and asked Iran to stop its armed aggression against Iraq. In a statement issued at the end of its meetings in Baghdad, the committee noted the grave situation that has arisen because of Iran's new large-scale aggression against Iraqi sovereignty and territorial integrity in the east Basra and Shatt al-'Arab areas — an aggression which threatens security, territorial integrity, and sovereignty in the Arab Gulf region.

The committee requested an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss developments and take practical, immediate measures to stop the war. The following is the text of the statement:

At the invitation of the Arab League secretary general, upon the initiative of the Republic of Iraq, and based on the Arab League resolution issued at its emergency session on 14 March 1984 on the Iraq-Iran war, which stipulated the formation of a ministerial committee to follow up the situation arising from the continuation of this war, the committee met in Baghdad on 12 February 1986 with all its members attending. It reviewed the extremely grave situation that has arisen because Iran has launched a new large-scale aggression against Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity in the east Basra and Shatt al-'Arab areas with the aim of occupying more Iraqi territory and threatening the security, sovereignty, and territorial integrity in the Arab Gulf region, something which demonstrates Iran's rejection of international resolutions and its flouting of appeals for peace, for mediation, and for seeking international legitimacy in settling the dispute between the two neighboring countries.

In view of this intransigent Iranian attitude, which takes lightly the UN Charter and resolutions, the rules of international law, human values, and international public opinion, the committee finds itself compelled to be guided again by the above Arab League resolution which, in its fourth paragraph, stipulates renewed commitment to the 12th Arab summit resolution issued in Fes concerning solidarity with Iraq in its legitimate efforts to repel aggression and which warns Iran that its aggression against Iraq — an Arab League member state which has accepted all peace initiatives — will force the Arab states to reconsider their relations with it. The committee recalls the contents of the final statement of the Arab summit conference held in Casablanca in 1985 on the war which expressed its deep regret for and condemnation of Iran's insistence on continuing the war and launching one offensive after another against Iraq.

In view of the above, the committee asks Iran to stop its armed aggression against fraternal Iraq. It considers it its duty to warn Iran of the dire consequences that its insistence on aggression will have on Arab-Iranian relations, and the adverse results that will ensue if Iran does not respond to calls for a halt to the war and enter into negotiations with Iraq with the aim of reaching an honorable, comprehensive solution for the dispute on the basis of the UN Charter and international law.

In view of the grave situation in the region as a result of the continuation of the Iranian aggression and its efects on the security and peace in the region and the world, the committee calls on all states, organizations, and international bodies to firmly persevere in their efforts to establish peace between Iraq and Iran on the bases of international law.

The committee has decided to call for an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss the grave developments in the situation and to take practical, quick measures to put a final end to the war and solve the dispute by peaceful means. The committee has also decided that all committee members will attend the Security Council's deliberations.

Committee Members Express Solidarity

Chedli Klibi at News Conference

JN131206 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has said that in all circumstances the Arabs are in solidarity with Iraq in its confrontation of the Iranian aggression.

At a press conference here today and replying to Iranian regime's President Khamene'i's threats that his regime will not remain silent over the recommendations of the seven-member follow-up committee, Klibi added that pan-Arab duty requires absolute solidarity with the Iraqi people in deterring the aggression.

The committee met in Baghdad last night and discussed the Arab measures that should be taken to support Iraq.

Saudi Minister Calls for Cease-Fire

LD121854 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1839 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad 12 Feb (KUNA) — Saudi Arabia this evening urged Iran, through its Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, to immediately observe a cease-fire and respond to peace initiatives.

The Iraqi News agency INA quotes Prince Sa'ud al-Fasyal as making his call to Iran, on arrival here this afternoon to attend an urgent meeting of an Arab seven-man committee charged with following up the Iraqi-Iranian war, "to observe a cease-fire immediately and respond to peace initiatives to guarantee the rights of both sides, for the edification of good neighborly relations, and for security and stability to prevail in the region for the good of the Arab and Islamic nation."

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has also urged all the Arab states "to use their potentials to the long-standing Iraqi-Iranian war".

He has stressed that the continuation of this war "causes the attrition of the potentials and capabilities of both countries, a matter that constitutes a shock to the Arab position that has already showed a desire for peace and an eagerness to maintain Arab-Iranian relations."

INA also says that Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has praised Iraq's stand and its acceptance of all peace initiatives, saying: "Iraq has always expressed its readiness to stop the fighting and to enter into negotiations to attain a peaceful, just, and honorable settlement to the conflict."

Bulgaria's Grisha Filipov Arrives on Visit

JN111532 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Feb (INA) — Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, arrived here today at the head of a delegation on an official visit to Iraq which will last several days.

Receiving the chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers at the airport were Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, and ministers.

In a statement to INA, Grisha Filipov expressed his happiness at visiting Iraq, saying that this visit comes in light of his country's desire to expand and deepen the existing relations of friendship and cooperation with Iraq.

Talks Begin 11 Feb

JN120751 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2200 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Official talks between Iraq and Bulgaria began last night. Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, chaired the Iraqi side to the talks: and Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, chaired the Bulgarian side. Ramadan and Filipov exchanged speeches in which they praised the development of Iraqi-Bulgarian relations of cooperation and friendship and emphasized the need to promote them in service of the two friendly countries' interests. They also stressed the need to maintain the current level of cooperation between the two countries and to formulate future programs with respect to the friendship which exists between them.

The Iraqi side comprises Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade member; Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform; and officials from the two ministries. The Bulgarian side comprises Foreign Trade Minister Khristo Iliev Khristov, other Bulgarian officials, and the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Grisha Filipov yesterday evening. The discussion during the meeting dealt with bilateral relations and ways of promoting them in service of the two countries' interests. The meeting was attended by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform; Khristo Iliev Khristov, Bulgarian foreign trade minister; and the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad.

President Receives Filipov

JN121335 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Council of Ministers in Bulgaria, this morning. Cordial relations between Iraq and Bulgaria and ways to develop them were discussed during the meeting. First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, the president's secretary, the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad, and the Iraqi ambassador to Bulgaria attended the meeting.

Visits Ends; Agreements Signed

JN131459 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1410 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, signed an economic, scientific, and technical cooperation agreement covering the next 5 years today. In a speech on the occasion, Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed satisfaction with the positive results of the talks which produced an agreement defining the general framework for future cooperation between Iraq and Bulgaria and expressing the solid friendship which exists between the two countries.

The chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers expressed satisfaction with the results the two countries attained, results which will initiate a new stage for promoting cooperation between Iraq and Bulgaria in service of their mutual interests.

Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, and Khristo Khristov, Bulgarian minister of trade, have also signed an agreement on bilateral relations for the current year. The agreement covers details of joint cooperation for this year in economy, industry, irrigation, transport, electricity, land reforms, trade exchange, and finance. The signing ceremony was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers; and Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister.

Following the signing ceremony Grisha Filipov left Baghdad at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq. He was seen off by Taha Yasin Ramadan and Hasan 'Ali.

Communique Issued on Visit

JN131834 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — Iraq and Bulgaria have expressed their mutual desire to promote bilateral cooperation in service of their two peoples' interests. In a press communique issued here today at the end of an official visit to Iraq by Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, which ended today, the two sides praised the fruitful development of cooperation between Iraq and Bulgaria in various spheres, particularly in the economic sphere in accordance with agreements which were concluded at the highest levels and also in accordance with treaties and conventions in force between the two governments.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the fact that these relations have strengthened and that the cooperation which exists between their two countries is beneficial to both. They emphasized the benefit of the Iraqi-Bulgarian political dialogue and the two countries' determination to further promote reciprocal relations in all spheres. They reiterated their mutual desire to further promote bilateral cooperation in service of the two friendly peoples' interests and for the sake of world peace and security.

During the visit, an agreement for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation was signed for 1986-1990 which contained the scope and possibilities of cooperation between the two countries in the aforementioned fields. Within the framework of the joint committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, the two sides signed the minutes of the 17th session agreement. The minutes contained in detail the scope of cooperation for 1986 in economic, commercial, and scientific fields, as well as financial cooperation for 1986 and 1987.

The two sides exchanged views on current international issues. The views of the two sides were either identical or similar. The two sides expressed their governments' concern over the complicated international situation and the dangers threatening world peace. They stressed the need to prevent the start of an arms race in space and to stop the arms race on earth. They also stressed the need to improve the international situation, alleviate tension, and support efforts aimed at achieving comprehensive disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament, and preventing an arms race and the deployment of nuclear weapons.

The two sides highly praised the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on 15 January 1986 regarding the complete destruction of nuclear and chemical weapons.

The two sides noted the great importance of promoting and deepening detente in the world. The Iraqi side praised Bulgaria's active efforts aimed at making the Balkan's a region free from nuclear and chemical weapons and a region of peace, security, and cooperation.

The two sides affirmed their conviction in the need to achieve a speedy just and peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis by involving the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole, legitimate representative. They also affirmed that any attempt to impose separate solutions on Arab countries cannot achieve a just, honorable settlement. The two sides expressed their conviction in the need to involve all parties concerned in the conflict through an international conference in any attempt or process aimed at resolving the Palestine question.

The two sides stressed that any lasting, just, comprehensive settlement in the Middle East must be based on the unconditional and complete withdrawal of the Zionist entity's forces from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and on guaranteeing the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, particularly their right to repatriation, self-determination, and to establishing their independent state in Palestine.

The two sides expressed their strong denunciation of the continuous Zionist aggression on Lebanon and its occupation of parts of Lebanon. They also denounced the Zionist entity's continuous interference in Lebanon's domestic affairs and its territorial integrity. They called for the Zionist forces' unconditional withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

The Iraqi side briefed the Bulgarian side on recent developments in the Iraq-Iran war and on the various international initiatives to end this war and to peacefully settle the conflict. The Iraqi side reviewed the positive Iraqi response to these initiatives, particularly its response to UN Security Council resolutions, and to the resolutions of the ICO and the Nonaligned Movement.

The Iraqi side reiterated its readiness to end the war and to settle the conflict through just and comprehensive means on the basis of the UN Charter and international law to achieve a complete and immediate end to military operations on all fronts, the withdrawal of forces to international borders, the holding of direct or indirect negotiations, an end to interference in the two countries' domestic issues, and a comprehensive exchange of POW's.

The Bulgarian side has reiterated its firm and principled stand toward an immediate and peaceful settlement of the Iraq Iran conflict.

The Bulgarian side acquainted itself with the positive method Iraq follows regarding international initiatives to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict. The Bulgarian side expressed its strong belief that the continuation of bloodshed at the Iranian-Iraqi front conflicts with the interests of the two countries' peoples and those of Middle Eastern states. The Bulgarian side stressed that it is more necessary than ever to bolster the Middle East states' unity of struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The two sides' viewpoints were identical on the need for an effective UN Security Council contribution to ending the war between Iraq and Iran and to peacefully settle the conflict in accordance with the UN Charter and the international law.

The two sides stressed the growing importance of the nonaligned states' role in solving serious world problems. They expressed their appreciation for these states' contribution to the struggle for averting nuclear catastrophe and for liquidating hotbeds of tension and serious conflict. They also stressed the importance of bolstering the nonaligned states' unity of struggle against imperialism and in eliminating colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, apartheid, and all forms of persecution and exploitation.

The Bulgarian side praised the efforts exerted by Iraq, in its capacity as a member of the Nonaligned Movement, to entrench the Nonaligned Movement's position in the world, strengthen its hostility to imperialism, support its struggle for peace, disarmament, and international detente, and to promote international cooperation without discrimination.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the results of the visit to Iraq by Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers. They also expressed the belief that this visit would contribute to promoting bilateral relations, friendship, and fruitful cooperation between the two sides in all fields.

Commentary on U.S. Recognition of Palestinian Rights

Minister, 'Source' Interviewed

PM140941 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 13 Feb 86 p 1

[Faysal al-Shubul report on interview with Jordanian Minister for Occupied Territories Affairs Dr Tahir Kan'an in Amman; date not given]

[Text] Dr Tahir Kan'an, Jordanian minister for occupied territories affairs, described the recent statement by the U.S. State Department official spokesman, regarding U.S. recognition that the Palestine problem is more than just a refugee problem, and his assertion of the need to not confuse Security Council Resolution 242 and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights which President Reagan had earlier recognized, as a positive turn in the current U.S. Administration's policy on the Palestine problem.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, the Jordanian minister said these statements mean that the present U.S. Administration is no longer ignoring international resolutions on the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, particularly the right to self-determination, and they indicate a new course that is less biased in favor of the Israeli viewpoint.

Dr Kan'an expressed the hope that this course will be consolidated with a view to serving humanity and justice. This is expected from a superpower like the United States which has a major responsibility toward world peace and security and where one of whose presidents originated the idea of peoples' rights to self-determination.

On the other hand, an official source at the Ministry for Occupied Territories Affairs made a statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* commenting on the recent statement by enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres regarding autonomous rule for the Palestinians in the West Bank. He said that these statements involve great risks, particularly since a heated debate is currently taking place in official Israeli quarters regarding the interpretation of these statements. He said that the Likud and the Labor Party which form the present coalition government in Israel have widely diverging views of Peres' recent statements. Peres bases his statements on Ben-Gurion's philosophy: Ben-Gurion once said that he replied to the Palestinian rejection [of the State of Israel] by challenging all the Arabs and declaring the "State of Israel." Therefore, Peres, like him, finds himself obliged to take unilateral initiative. For his part, Yitzhaq Shamir is leading strong Likud opposition to Peres' ideas. He said that the Camp David agreements are known as "the framework for peace in the Middle East" and therefore we cannot possibly interpret them differently and implement autonomy unilaterally.

The source added that Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has expressed his doubts about the possibility of implementing autonomy because of difficulties and strong opposition. He said: Some 2 hours after we leave the occupied territories we will be forced to return to them with tanks and armored vehicles and pay the price with our blood. In other words, Israeli officials are still divided over the question while the stand of citizens and nationalist bodies in the occupied territories is firm and has not changed. They have declared it publicly and are acting daily with all the means available to them, namely rejecting occupation and adhering to legitimate national rights.

Concluding, the source said that we in Jordan — on all levels and in every position — stand alongside our people in the occupied territories and face the same challenge in order to end the occupation.

AL-DUSTUR on Break in 'Stalemate'

JN131000 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Feb 86 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "The U.S. Approach to Arab Demands"]

[Text] The statement issued by the State Department 2 days ago pertaining to the U.S. understanding of the Middle East issue and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights constitutes a tangible qualitative step forward in this understanding, which is now somewhat closer to Arab demands. It can be said that progress has been achieved in the peace process in the region.

Such a development in the U.S. stand might, for a period of time, constitute the key to proceeding toward an international conference on peace in the Middle East, especially after the U.S. Administration decides on the issue of convening the conference and on who will participate. This opportunity must not be lost through Israel's traditional intransigence — intransigence which escalated after the U.S. statement saying that recognizing UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 does not harm the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Palestinian rights transcend the aforementioned resolutions. In themselves, the resolutions are not sufficient to tackle the Palestinian question which, according to the U.S. statement, is more than just a refugee problem.

Such a U.S. step, which has long been delayed and through whose delay several opportunities to achieve progress toward a just and lasting peace have been lost, is considered a real gain in this phase in breaking the stalemate in the region. It is also considered an encouragement to the parties concerned with peace to renew their efforts and endeavors to bridge the stands of the parties which still differ on the nature and credentials of an international conference.

We are confident that if the U.S. Administration refuses to submit to the Israeli blackmail, as was the case with previous U.S. Administrations, then this U.S. statement can be developed to the extent that it would meet just Arab demands, headed by a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 as well as recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination within a confederal framework with Jordan.

This right was pointed out in the recent U.S. stand when it affirmed that Palestinian rights can be interpreted and that progress can be made regarding their implementation through negotiations that will be held within the framework of an international peace conference.

King Telephones Saddam Husayn on War Developments

JN131814 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn resumed telephone contact with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn today to inquire about developments in the military situation on the battlefronts. His Majesty King Husayn made new telephone contact with President Saddam Husayn this evening.

President Saddam Husayn stressed that the vigilant Iraqi forces have completely foiled the Iranian regime's aggressive plans, that the Iraqi forces have repulsed the Iranian regime's attacks on all fronts, and that the Iraqi forces are tightening their grip on the remants of the aggressors and inflicting on them one defeat after another.

Information Minister Leaves for Cairo

JN121515 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Amman, 12 Feb (PETRA) — Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib left Amman for Cairo at noon today leading a media delegation on an official visit to Egypt which will last for several days.

In a statement to PETRA and Amman radio correspondents, Al-Khatib said that the special relations between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Arab Republic of Egypt proceed from Jordan's belief under His Majesty King Husayn in the need to bolster Arab soldiarity on the highest levels with all Arab brothers.

U.S. Defense Department Official Arrives in Amman

JN111847 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Richard Armitage, U.S. assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, and his delegation arrived in Amman this evening on an official visit of several days. He was received at Amman military airport by Staff General Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, the assistant chief of staff for operations and planning; the commander of the Jordanian Air Force; and the U.S. military attache in Amman.

Received by Air Force Commander

JN121415 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Staff General Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, received Richard Armitage, U.S. assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, at his office in the General Command this morning. The meeting was attended by Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, his aides for operation and planning, the commander of the Jordanian Air Force, the U.S. ambassador in Amman, the U.S. military attache, and a number of the delegation accompanying the guest.

Al-Jumayyil on Damascus Agreement, Resignation

NC131931 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] In an interview published by the French paper *LE MONDE* this afternoon, President Amin al-Jumayyil says that his stand on the Damascus tripartite agreement cannot be considered a rejection of the basic agreement. It includes many important principles, but the text requires modifications, particularly on the following three points: the complementarity of the political system and the social structure, the division of power, and the relationship with other countries.

President al-Jumayyil adds: Concerning these three points, it is the duty of the president of the Republic to protect the fundamentals of the Lebanese existence, ensure normal functioning of the state institutions, and guarantee that our external relations are based on national sovereignty and independence.

President al-Jumayyil asserts: Despite the events of the past 11 years, Lebanon is still a democratic state. If it is legitimate, this democracy could be revived and could prosper.

The president points out that he is working hard to restore the political dialogue, even if on the basis of the tripartite agreement. He urges extraction of the seeds of peace from the tripartite agreement, saying: Let us encourage these seeds to grow and let us not be hasty, and thereby miss opportunities for peace.

President al-Jumayyil affirms that his resignation at present would paralyze the institutions forever. He says not to despair and not to blindly accept an agreement because peace imposed under threats is not permanent. The president notes: I am seeking unanimity, which could put an end to the war, and I insist that the available opportunities must not be missed. The president asserts that the war started in the south and we can bring peace by solving the southern problem, particularly since it includes all the Lebanese factions — Christians, Muslims, Shi'ites, and Druze. He says that the departure of the UN forces from the south will open the way for many plots.

President al-Jumayyil lists his goals within the peace-process: Respect for democracy, participation of the largest possible number of the factions in achieving peace, and a guaranteed role for the institutions. He asks if these constitute a rejection of peace or an endeavor to establish it. He affirms: It is not important to achieve an agreement. What is required is a real solution guaranteeing a genuine peace. The president asserts that peace in Lebanon can be established through close Lebanese-Syrian cooperation and that it is impossible for Syria alone to establish it. He says: We must start with a dialogue among the Lebanese. The president adds: Unity is needed if Lebanon is to endure and there is to be regional security and stability.

More on Interview

NC132300 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2115 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil has stressed that he does not reject the Damascus agreement. Replying to questions from the French paper *LE MONDE*, he said: The accord is an important step toward stability. I have agreed to these negotiations on the condition that they will, as has already been established, lead to a national conference. Its results will be submitted to the president and the Chamber of Deputies. Constitutional government is practiced in Lebanon.

The president added: In addition to the signatories of the agreement, there are other involved groups, both military and non-military. My duty is to preserve the rights of all these groups, particularly when the issue concerns the future of the country. We should differentiate between security and peace. We frequently confuse these two concepts. We are seeking genuine peace, which is based on national freedom of expression. President al-Jumayyil continued: Otherwise, the matter will be no more than a security agreement between militias that [word indistinct] their weapons for a time and then will begin fighting. Undoubtedly, a quick end to the war is required immediately. This is an indisputable matter. We admit the need to modify our political system, to assimilate within the Arab environment, and to review our unique and fraternal relations with Syria.

The president said: The tripartite agreement includes many of these principles. However, it needs some improvements, particularly on three points: The complementarity of the political system and the social structure, the division of power, and the relationship with other countries. He added: I discussed these points with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad during the eleventh summit. I proposed that the signatories of the tripartite agreement consider my three observations so that the accord will be more realistic. If they accept, I will refer the amended draft of the agreement to the Chamber of Deputies. Thus, the representatives of the people can express their opinion on it. The atmosphere of our last meeting was cordial and fraternal.

Regarding the opposition's campaign for his resignation, President al-Jumayyil remarked: I was constitutionally elected president. The people are split; the territory divided; and the institutions, to a large extent, paralysed. Above these institutions is the presidency, which is still effective. My resignation under these circumstances will lead to a full paralysis of the institutions. At present, the president of the Republic is the [word indistinct] of the edifice. This is not because of his exceptional capabilities or his personal ambitions, but because if the constitutionally-elected president wants to have self-respect, he must [word indistinct] democracy. I wish that the Lebanese and Lebanon's friends would understand this and would (?join) this endeavor and help us to end this crisis.

Franjiyah Suggests Force To End 11-Year Crisis

NC140800 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon
in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] In a statement to the PRESS NEWS AGENCY [Wikalat al-Anba' al-Suhufiyah], former President Sulayman Franjiyah hinted at the possibility of adopting a military solution, should the political solution fail. He said that Lebanon has been living through a military situation for 11 years. The continuation of this situation for a few days longer would not be serious if the end result is the salvation of Lebanon. He noted that it would be better to shorten the war than to allow things to go on as they are.

On the possibility of foreign intervention to prevent a military solution, Franjiyah said: Regional and international powers no longer care about the Lebanese issue. The question can be settled here, on the spot, and either I or you can win.

Franjiyah affirmed that the tripartite agreement is still valid and must be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies for approval or rejection. If the Chamber of Deputies endorses this agreement, then we must revive it, by force if necessary.

PDRY Invites PSP's Junblatt To Visit Aden

NC140713 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Muhammad Nasir, the PDRY charge d'affaires in Beirut, visited Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] headquarters in Beirut yesterday. He was received by PSP Central Committee member 'Ali al-Musawi. During the meeting, the Yemeni charge d'affaires conveyed an invitation from the YSP Politburo to PSP leader Walid Junblatt to visit Aden and hold talks with Politburo members on the recent developments there.

Socialists Demolish Christian Houses in Iqlim

NC141010 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] According to information we have received from the Iqlim al-Kharrub area, armed Junblatt supporters have resumed the demolition of the remaining Christian houses in Al-Jiyah, Al-Rumaylah, and Dahr al-Magharah in the Iqlim. Before beginning the demolition work, which is supervised by the civilian committee, Junblatt's men remove windows, window bars, and doors and sell them in markets. The proceeds go to the civilian committee's funds.

Our information adds that this practice started after the tripartite agreement was signed. Its purpose is to prevent the return of Christian evacuees and to please Druze Shaykh 'Aql, who opposes the provision in the agreement that calls for the return of evacuees.

Amal Arrests More Palestinians, Communists

NC131640 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Our correspondent reports that roadblocks manned by Amal personnel were set up this afternoon along the Airport Road and in the areas of Qasr al-Mashnuq, Qasr al-'Uwayni, and the Al-Rasul al-A'zam mosque. Our correspondent adds that officials at the roadblocks have ordered the arrest of Palestinians and communists in accordance with list of names. They are looking for communists who cooperate with Yasir 'Arafat, following reports that they have been transporting weapons into the camps.

Our correspondent indicates that 10 people have been detained at the roadblocks so far. This has led to tension in the camps and to the deployment of Palestinian gunmen.

This comes at a time when the Coordination Committee, which met today under the chairmansip of Prime Minister Rashid Karami, is trying to defuse tension among the armed groups. Following the meeting, the prime minister announced that the committee had discussed the outcome of its efforts to come up with a security plan for West Beirut. Karami said that the plan had been approved and that it would be put into effect in the next few hours.

Fighting Flares in Beirut, Reaches Al-Sayyad Area

NC131628 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] At 1730, fighting flared on the Sfayr-Al-Mu'allim combat line, where clashes with various types of weapons are continuing. Intense sniper fire has reached the Al-Sayyad traffic circle.

2 Liberation Army Soldiers Killed in Lahd Shelling

NC131444 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A source of the Popular Liberation Army in Sidon has stated that this afternoon agent Lahd resumed heavy artillery shelling of Popular Liberation Army positions and villages east of Sidon. Two members of the Liberation Army were killed and four others were wounded. The source stressed that the Popular Liberation Army will not return the fire because it honors the decision to seek a peaceful political solution to end the fighting in the Jazzin area.

'Fierce' Fighting Raging in S. Lebanon; 5 Killed

NC140942 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] According to security sources in the south, several artillery rounds fell on Sidon today. Fierce fighting currently is raging along the Lib'a-Kafr Falus-'Ayn al-Mir combat lines between the Army of Southern Lebanon and extremist leftist and religious organizations. Five members of the Liberation Army were killed and 20 others were wounded during the clashes that broke out during the past few hours.

Commentary on U.S. Statement on Palestinian Rights

JN131452 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] From time to time, the United States comes up with new old ideas and plans to show that it has begun to justly view Arab issues and that it has begun to partly relinquish its full commitment to Israel and to its objectives and expansionist ambitions in the region. The Arabs and the world know that the United States has never viewed the Middle East and its problems and issues except by Israeli standards. The Arabs have attempted for a long time to neutralize U.S. policy in the Middle East, the U.S. disregard of established facts in the region, and the serious consequences of the continuous U.S. support for Zionist hostility.

However, Arab attempts have not found any positive response from the U.S. side. On the contrary, the United States continued to hatch and carry out plots with Israel in an attempt to weaken and fragment Arabs.

Since the establishment of the Zionist entity, the United States has adopted two methods in implementing its policy in the region. The first method is extending direct aid to Israel, adopting its policy and expansionist plans, and extending huge military and economic aid to the Zionist entity. The second method is represented by showing U.S. understanding of Arab demands and objectives. The United States expressed this understanding through plans, proposals, and calls which have not actually given Israel concern. Among these proposals and calls, for example, is what the United States announced a few years ago regarding its opposition to establishing settlements in the occupied Arab territories and its support for establishing a homeland for the Palestinians. This came from former U.S. President Carter who said that the Palestinians should have a homeland of their own.

The U.S. initiatives and ideas which are covered by good intentions have reached a point where the United States agreed to provide an international canopy for the Middle East crisis. These initiatives have recently reached a point where the United Statesannounced that the Palestine question is not just a refugee problem and that the Palestinians have legitimate rights and that these rights should be discussed during negotiations. If we review the results of most of the U.S. calls and intitiatives, we will realize that these calls have deceived and trapped all those who trusted U.S. intentions and initiatives in the Middle East. It has become clear that the Palestinian homeland of which former President Carter spoke was no more than a U.S. trick to peddle the Camp David accords. It has also become clear that U.S. opposition to establishing settlements in the occupied territories was just deception enabling the Americans to support the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Today, the new U.S. discovery of the Palestinian people's rights is being viewed as an important development and a turning point in U.S. policy on the Middle East. But what is the truth? The only interpretation of these rights in the political U.S. dictionary is similar to the enemy's interpretation. There are many flagrant examples of this. The most recent example of this is the U.S. veto which was used to bless and support the Israeli attacks on the Al-Aqsa Mosque and Arab holy places and the U.S. veto which defended the Israeli air piracy over the Mediterranean sea.

All historical and political facts say that Washington has never recognized the Palestine question. Moreover, even in its recent initiative, the United States has never recognized the national Palestinian identity or the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. All that Washington believes in is a negotiating table at which the Israelis sit with weak, collapsed, and impotent representatives, which the United States likes to call the Palestinian people's representatives.

This is the truth about U.S. ideas and intentions toward the Palestinian people. Therefore, the Palestinian people and the Arab nation's sons reject these ideas and intentions, because their only objective is to liquidate the Palestine question and to exclude it from the arena of conflict with the enemy. The Palestinian people and the Arab nation will never allow this to happen.

Jerusalem Television Interview With Shim'on Peres

TA131855 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Interview in Hebrew with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by political correspondent Me'ir Kohen at the Prime Minister's Office on 13 February, on the "Meeting" program — videotaped]

[Text] [Kohen] Mr Prime Minister, in the wake of the failure of the contacts between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat, you voiced the need to grant broad powers of self-rule to the inhabitants of the territories. What is the political significance of this move?

[Peres] First of all, I would like to correct you. The efforts to establish a dialogue with King Husayn have not failed, the negotiations with Husayn have not stopped, and I also hope that they will continue. What has truly failed is the dialogue between Husayn and 'Arafat, which is altogether a different story. From the beginning, I did not believe that 'Arafat would find a common language with Husayn. 'Arafat and his men are now trying to make people in the territories believe that the dialogue is continuing. I think it is my duty to tell the inhabitants of the territories: I am sorry, but 'Arafat has once again blocked the path to peace, he is not offering you any real plan and has left you and us, all of us, hanging in mid-air. Therefore, I say that there are two parallel processes: one in the territories — we do not want you to pay the price, as a result of the failure of the 'Arafat-Husayn talks. The second deals with our continued efforts to establish a dialogue with Husayn.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, does your proposal on devolution in the territories mean that you have given up on the Jordanian option you advocated for years?

[Peres] God forbid, one does not replace the other. I am only saying to the inhabitants of the territories that there is no vacuum. Had I been an inhabitant of the territories, I would have said to myself: If I am allowed to run my own life according to my customs and expectations, why not? We are not telling the inhabitants of the territories: This is what you should do. We are not coming to them with sticks and clubs, but rather with proposals. What we are saying is: Do you want to run your own life? Please do. Do you want us to intervene as little as possible? We will not intervene. Our top priority is really to guarantee the security of both the Arab and Jewish inhabitants. We have no need or interest either in running the municipalities, or their education or agriculture; we want to help.

[Kohen] In the past, there were attempts to implement a policy of expanding the power of the inhabitants of the territories and to unilaterally implement autonomy, but these attempts failed for all sorts of reasons. How can this concept be implemented today in view of the objections within the Alignment as well?

[Peres] I do not know what you mean when you say within the Alignment as well. I am talking about very specific things. We will not force any inhabitant of the territories to do something he does not want to do. Also, we are not proposing that the devolution should take the place of a permanent solution. What we are saying is: Wait a minute, do you want the mayors to be local Arabs? Our answer is: Yes, why not? Do you want to develop the water resources? Please. Do you want to raise or bring in funds? Please. Do you want to set up a bank? Please. Do you want to set up hospitals? Please. Do you want us to help you? We are ready. Do you want to run the offices in the territories? Please. We are not forcing or obliging you; make up your own minds as to what is better and more convenient for you.

[Kohen] Could you outline the devolution plan? Is the current purpose to arrive at interim or partial arrangements in view of the fact that a comprehensive peace is unfeasible?

[Peres] I am not proposing it in place of anything. I am proposing it as an addition to or improvement on the current situation. I am not proposing it as an interim or permanent solution. Now, as for the practical details: As far as municipalities are concerned, there are three towns — Al-Birah, Ramallah, and Hebron — in which the mayors are not Arab. What we say is: Please, we are prepared to take the desires of the inhabitants into consideration and have the municipalities run by locals. If the mayors want more power in the municipal field, we will give it to them; we will not force them.

Second, at present all of the commanding officers or the administrators — or most of them — are Jews. Do you want the commanding officers to be Arabs? Please, we will not force you. But there is really no sense in having education in Judaea and Samaria run by a non-Arab. Why should that be so? The same applies to agriculture, trade, and other spheres.

Third, it is clear that as the population increases and the standard of living rises, one should also see to development. Do you want more industries with investment from inside and outside the territories? Please. Do you want a bank? Please. Do you want to develop water resources, such as the site at Wadi Farrah? Please, why not?; as much as you want, freely, either from inside or with outside assistance, with local investments, anything.

Fourth, this sphere deals with relations with the Arab world. We do not want to stand in the way of your relations with the Arab world, be they religious, cultural, family, or other relations. As a result, we have lifted many travel restrictions; we have significantly reduced the number of banned books, we allow the universities to operate, we allow the papers to publish, and we allow contacts as much as possible. The only restriction is terrorism; we will not allow arms or violence, but we will alow relations.

I would also say that we would be willing to grant more independence and greater say as far as policing duties are concerned. These are the main points. I reiterate: We are not forcing you. Do you think I know what we want to gain by this? We do not want to gain anything; we want both of us to live as human beings, and we want to behave respectfully and considerately. Do you want to keep your Arab way of life and tradition? Please. Do you want to keep your ties with the Arab world? Please.

[Kohen] Mr Prime Minister, what about the status of the IDF?

[Peres] If I knew that we could pull the IDF out and there would be calm, I would be in favor of doing so. However, I am afraid that if we were to pull the IDF out, terrorism would take over, and in my opinion terrorism is just as much an enemy of the local population as it is of the State of Israel. I repeat: Terrorism was not caused by the Palestinian problem; I think the Palestinian problem was caused by terrorism. From 1948 the Palestinians could have established their own state. Who did not let them? We agreed, the United Nations agreed, but the extremists did not allow it. To this day, who has ruined the negotiations with Husayn? Again, the extremists. You know, time does not stand still. In 1948, the chances of solving the Arab problem were greater than they are today, and the longer we wait the less chance there will be.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, it is known that a large part of the devolution plan depends mainly on Jordan's agreement to such moves as the appointment of mayors in the West Bank. Have there been any contacts with the Jordanians on this issue?

[Peres] You are asking me a specific question and I will give you a conceptual answer. We want to coordinate affairs with Jordan as much as possible; we are not acting against Jordan. We remember very well that all the inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria are Jordanian citizens. There are members of the Jordanian Parliament, there is the Jordanian dinar and Jordanian law, and we are not acting against Jordan. Whenever possible, we act with Jordan. Still, I am not specifically answering your question; I am mainly telling you our basic approach.

[Kohen] Do you foresee Jordan's blessing for the plan in the future, perhaps?

[Peres] I do not foresee any such blessing from Jordan, since it would be very difficult for it to grant this officially. In general, I distinguish between official, overt actions and practical actions. I do not suggest that any inhabitant of the territories make a statement that would harm his position; I do not expect or ask for such a thing; this is why I am also cautious about headlines. I think this is the right approach until we reach a practical arrangement.

[Kohen] What would you expect from the Palestinian leadership in the territories today in the wake of the collapse of the talks between Husayn and 'Arafat?

[Peres] I would expect them to take their fate into their own hands. If they leave their fate to others, there will be nobody to look after them. Look, there were three viewpoints about the inhabitants of the territories: first, apparently that of Jordan, which hoped that the PLO leadership would change. Today, the PLO leadership is mainly composed of people who did not come from the territories but rather from what is currently known as Israel, within the boundaries of the Green Line, from Yafo and 'Akko; they include hardly anybody from Nabulus, Janin, Hebron, or Jericho. Indeed, some people from the territories were made part of the PLO leadership, but to my deep regret Fahd al-Qawasimi was murdered, Muhammad Milhim did not attain a prominent position, and the old-timers remain. I believe the Jordanians thought that if representatives of the territories joined the PLO leadership they would look after the territories, because the current PLO leadership wants to destroy the State of Israel more than it wants to find a solution to the problem of the territories.

The second viewpoint, apparently that of 'Arafat, wants to maintain the integrity and leadership of the PLO and wants to create the impression that he has a solution. Well, he does not have a solution; believe me, he does not know what to do, he simply does not know what to do. He does not know, he kills, his people are being killed; it is all just violence, violence, violence; violence without a plan, the plan is violence.

The third viewpoint, that of Israel, is: You, the inhabitants of the territories — there are some 800,000 in Judaea and Samaria and 560,000 in Gaza — come and look for a solution; we are prepared to talk to you and with you. Do you want to talk separately? Please. Do you want to talk to us in a Jordanian-Palestinian framework? Please. There are mayors and authentic leaders in your midst. What do you want? Do you want all your decisions to be made in exile by people who did not come from the territories, by people who are incapable of making a decision? This is our outlook.

[Kohen] In the talks held in Amman, there was almost direct contact between the PLO and U.S. representatives. This week we heard a new nuance from the State Department about self-determination for the Palestinians....

[Peres, interrupting] No, not about self-determination but about the legitimate rights of the Palestinians; these are two different things.

[Kohen] The question is: Do you believe this new nuance is an attempt to take a different approach toward the Palestinian issue?

[Peres] No, I do not htink so. I think all the definitions are included in the Camp David accords. This is what is written in the Camp David accords: to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people [preceding three words in English], to solve all the aspects of the Palestinian problem. There is also a reference to the issue of self-determination; and also the Palestinians will participate in determining their own future. [sentence in English] In other words, since the reference is not to an area which belongs only to one side, not even according to the Arab point of view, what the accords say is that when dealing with self-determination, two peoples are involved, and both of them have a right to self-determination. Therefore, when referring to the Palestinians, the Camp David Accords say that they will also take part in determining their own future.

[Kohen] Sir, do you know about contacts between the PLO and U.S. representatives in Amman?

[Peres] I do not know about this. The Americans have denied it and I believe their denial.

[Kohen] In your assessment, what are the possibilities open to Husayn in the wake of the failure of the talks with Yasir 'Arafat? Is there a chance that Jordan will enter the negotiations without the PLO?

[Peres] I cannot tell you what Husayn will do; I can only tell you my assessment. Were Husayn to decide to lead the negotiations, I believe he would receive wide support from the inhabitants of the territories. They are tired of this entire mess and of having all paths blocked. I also think there is appreciation for Husayn; after all, he has turned out a very capable leader who has been running Jordan very well with a great deal of stability, albeit not without problems. They are used to Jordan's norms, and in my opinion, were Husayn to decide to lead the negotiations, many people in the territories would follow his lead.

[Kohen] Yesterday you stated in the Knesset that time is running out and working against the peace process. Is there a deadline from Israel's point of view regarding when Husayn should enter the negotiations?

[Peres] I do not have any deadlines. Somebody once said jokingly that a statesman who can say what will happen in 3 months can see the entire future; I am not talking about 3 months. What can I do with a deadline or with a pessimistic attitude? I believe that a person who wants to do something must be optimistic, believing, and patient. Even if there is a relapse here and a failure there, there is no need to despair. I will certainly not set deadlines.

[Kohen] Sir, about relations with Egypt: The talks between Israel and Egypt, which were held earlier in Cairo and this week in Herzliyya, were successful. Do you think the arbitral compromis can be finalized shortly?

[Peres] I think so. Both sides need a large number of attorneys, but that is only natural. It will probably take a lot of argument, but there is no reason why, after we decided in principle on arbitration, we should not reach an arbitral compromis.

[Kohen] One of the main topics of the talks is whether there is a linkage or dependence between arbitration over Tabah and progress in normalization.

[Peres] Look, we really have a talent for complicating matters unnecessarily. We and Egypt agreed that we should simultaneously see to normalizing relations and solving the Tabah problem, and this is a satisfactory decision. In other words, we should find a solution to the questions of tourism, trade, transportation access, the return of the ambassador, and to the Tabah question at one and the same time. Why complicate things further?

[Kohen] Does that mean that linkage is not an Israeli demand?

[Peres] Why should I demand when there is an understanding between Egypt and Israel to solve all the problems simultaneously?

[Kohen] Mr Peres, how do you foresee relations between the two countries once the understandings reached by the directors general are approved by the Cabinet? Are you going to confer with President Mubarak?

[Peres] I cannot predict the future, I can only tell you the future I hope for. In fact, I would like to see the Middle East become like Europe: each people keeping its language and identity, free contacts, a common economy. In my opinion, the Middle East today can be turned into a blossoming garden. I think the Arab world is also riding itself of the notion that oil is the answer to everything. You know, there is a difference between oil and faith: the price of oil may rise or fall, whereas faith does not decline. I think this is the final purpose: to create a European relationship instead of a violent relationship. I believe this is for the benefit of all the peoples of the region. I think we should take out of our lexicon the words war and hatred. There is no choice other than doing this step by step, but this is the main goal.

[Kohen] And you also have faith that the summit meeting will take place?

[Peres] It is not a question of faith. I am prepared and President Mubarak will decide whenever it is convenient for him. I am not pressuring him or asking him. What I am saying is that as far as I am concerned, I am prepared to meet tomorrow or the day after. One should bear in mind that this meeting is not everything, but merely another step. When you are working with somebody you do not pressure him.

[Kohen] One last question: With the release of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy, another phase in the human rights struggle in the Soviet Union came to its end. How do you assess this Soviet move? Does it indicate a new policy toward the Jews and a thaw in relations between the Soviet Union and Israel?

[Peres] Before I tell you my assessment of the Soviet move, I will give my assessment of the Jewish approach. We do not give up on anyone; we do not give up our faith. Look, one man arrived in Israel and the heart of the entire nation beat as one. This is what gives us our uniqueness and our unity. From the Jewish point of view, I hope that our Arab neighbors understand this too. A people which has suffered and has been persecuted so much is really shaped to feel solidarity with the life of another person, even if he is just one person, and we do not give up.

As for the Soviets, it is too early to tell. I do not think the release of Shcharanskiy denotes a change in policy. However, this does not mean that everything is blocked. On the contrary, one should examine and analyze a political situation by facts rather than by declarations, and the facts in the field are still too few to allow far-reaching political conclusions.

[Kohen] Mr Prime Minister, I thank you very much.

Peres Calls for Beginning Policy of Economic Growth

TA131653 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] We begin this newsreel with what may turn into a new government crisis. The unity government is no longer counting the crises or getting excited about another possible crisis. The disputed issue this time is resuming economic growth in Israel. Here is a quote: There are people in our midst who believe we should not let go of the current economic plan. The prime minister stated this today, directing his remarks at the finance minister, although he did not mention him by name, of course. We are continuously slashing, Peres said, adding that the time has come to begin a policy of growth. The rotation of the premiership lies ahead of us, so should we start resuming growth before or after the rotation?, Peres asked rhetorically. The prime minister stressed that to achieve growth we should increase exports and establish a modern technological and scientific infrastructure. The prime minister appeared today before the Association of Friends of the Weizman Institute.

[Begin recording] [Peres] Now that the economic program has proved so successful, we must make the next move. I am afraid that there are people in our midst who are so thrilled by the current plan that they do not want to let go of it, and they think that we must cut, slash, ax, lop, and reduce; they like this. Therefore I think that the time has now come to make a second daring move, perhaps less orthodox, and begin a policy of growth.

[Unidentified correspondent] In order to reach a balance and make progress, Israel must do two basic things: first, increase exports so as to lessen our dependence on outside assistance; and second, create a daring infrastructure of modern technology which will enable Israel to maintain its superiority in the scientific field.

[Peres] Sometimes I am shocked when I hear the criticism of the Lavi project. Who ever heard of any other nation setting out to develop a jet fighter, which may become an advanced or perhaps the most advanced plane of its generation, when the main financier is the U.S. Government?

[Unidentified correspondent] Peres added that in the framework of this growth, we should also work in the social sphere. We must check to see if certain social strata have been harmed by the current economic policy. In this category, Peres included the encouragement of agriculture, industries capable of recuperating, and the universities. The prime minister also spoke about the need to study feelings of social discrimination in the development towns that have a large concentration of unemployed. I believe that a solution can be found for 3,000 to 4,000 people out of the 6,000 unemployed in the development towns, the prime minister said.

To finance the economic plan, there is no need to increase the budget or go back to printing money, the prime minister noted. One may take advantage of the drop in oil prices and other products in the international market and invest the money saved back in the economy.

[Peres] Even if we are 60 percent successful and 40 percent unsuccessful, if we have the daring, chutzpah, and faith to do this, we will push ahead. Otherwise we will lag behind without a ray of hope.

[Unidentified correspondent] As recalled, Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i was quoted this morning as saying that Minister Ya'aqobi's growth plan, as presented by the prime minister, is a collection of old ideas, and as cautioning against beginning economic growth at the moment. Blabber does not lead to economic growth, Moda'i stated. [end recording]

Reportage on Talks With Egypt on Tabah Issue

Kimche Sees 'Turn for Better'

TA131421 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche has said that a turn for the better has taken poace in Egypt's position on Israel's requests regarding relations between the two countries. Mr Kimche told our correspondent Bassam Ja'bar that there is also an improvement in these relations, and that this is facilitating the talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegation discussing arbitration over Tabah. He said the Israeli delegation asked the Egyptians for a group of tourism experts to be permitted to visit Cairo along with the minister of tourism on his official visit there. Israel would like a discussion to be held on all issues connected with tourism between the two countries. Our correspondent also reports that the Egyptian delegation has asked to meet with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, and apparently the meeting will be held tomorrow morning.

Progress Made

TA131628 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Today is the second day of the talks between the Egyptian and Israeli delegations in Herzliyya and there has been some progress: Both countries have reached agreement on promoting normalization. The head of the Egyptian delegation is optimistic and believes that progress in the negotiations will henceforth be faster. The formulation of the arbitral compromis will be finalized within a few weeks, according to the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, Avraham Tamir. Our correspondent on Arab affairs, Eldad Beck, is at the broadcasting van in Herzliyya.

[Beck] A few minutes ago, the two joint Egyptian-Israeli working teams — one dealing with the formulation of the arbitral compromis and the other dealing with the normalization of relations — began their evening session at the meeting hall. From talks we held with members of the delegation, it emerges that additional progress was made in the sessions this morning on the two issues. We heard from the members of the Israeli delegation, Avraham Tamir and David Kimche.

[Begin recording] [Tamir] The relatively simple issues are finalized quickly, whereas the problematic issues call for lengthier deliberations. The purposes are clear and there is time for everything. I believe that several issues will be solved today simultaneously. I believe that it is not a matter of months but rather of weeks.

[Kimche] The fact is that today we are placing all our emphasis on the bilateral issues. We have been discussing these matters since this morning and are looking into ways to advance them in a pleasant atmosphere. The issues are: tourism, trade, communications, and culture. This is what we are doing.

[Beck] Did you reach any agreements on these issues?

[Kimche] We have made progress on these issues, but it will take time before we reach any agreements.

[Beck] The head of the Egyptian delegation, Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, also said that many issues remain to be discussed. [end recording]

The arbitration committee, which includes Avraham Tamir on the Israeli side, continued to formulate the arbitral compromis clauses and we were told that understanding has been reached on marginal issues, such as the frequency of the meetings of the arbiter and the need for the arbiter to tour the disputed area in Tabah. The problematic issues have not yet been tackled, and Israeli sources told us that a decision on them may be deferred to the political level.

The normalization committee determined the framework for improving mutual relations. Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir was invited to Cairo but a date for the visit was not set. It was also decided to hold a meeting on the professional level between Israeli and Egyptian representatives in order to implement the trade agreements that have already been signed by the two countries. These two points will be carried out even before the arbitral compromis has been signed.

The Israeli committee headed by Mr Kimche emphasized the need for the Egyptian media to be open to Israeli elements, but no agreement was reached on the subject. However, in a separate development and as a gesture by the Egyptian side, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres was interviewed by the popular Egyptian weekly *AKHIR SA'AH* by the Egyptian female journalist who is covering the Herzliyya talks. This is the first interview of an Israeli prime minister in the Egyptian media in 3 years.

We should also note that the prime minister's political adviser, Nimrod Novik, joined the talks this afternoon. He held a separate meeting with the head of the Egyptian delegation and was briefed by him on the course of the talks.

Justice Ministry Reacts to U.S. Human Rights Report

TA140712 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] The Americans will receive a full reply on the report on human rights issued by the U.S. State Department. In the meantime we asked for the Justice Ministry's reaction to the report.

Justice Ministry Director General Me'ir Gabay rejects the U.S. criticism, saying that administrative detentions in the territories do not contravene international law, as corroborated by the supreme court. Gabay emphasizes that these detentions are carried out for security reasons, and that the numbers involved are very small. The same applies to deportations from the territories.

The Justice Ministry director general also notes that the report has not yet reached him and he therefore declined to comment on the claims mentioned in it on water allocation, censorship, and the attitude toward the Jewish underground prisoners.

IDF Returns Body of Jordanian Soldier to Jordan

TA131137 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The IDF yesterday transferred to the Jordanian Army the body of the Jordanian soldier who infiltrated Israeli territory in the Mehola area approximately 2 weeks ago and killed two IDF soldiers in an ambush. This is reported by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal. The transfer was carried out on one of the Jordan River Bridges.

IDF Intends To Release Turkish Vessel, Crew

TA131702 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The IDF intends to release the Turkish vessel and its crew. The vessel was detained by the Israeli Navy near Gaza 2 days ago. It has been detained several times in the past both by the Israeli and Turkish authorities on suspicion of involvement with drug dealings. The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem today announced that the crew members are being held by the police and that any moves will henceforth be coordinated with the Turkish authorities. The family of the deceased captain has not yet given its approval for an autopsy to be performed. Bullet wounds and stab marks were found on his body.

Majority of Labor Ministers Want Early Elections

TA132027 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A decisive majority of Labor Party ministers is in favor of ending the national unity government at the earliest opportunity and holding new elections. Reporter Tony Gadot learned from reliable ministerial sources in the Labor Party that the only obstacle to the dissolution of the government is Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, who sees himself bound by the rotation agreement.

Bus Blast in Tel Aviv Area Wounds Six

TA140707 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] A bomb exploded inside a bus in Bene Beraq. Six people were wounded. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the bomb exploded on a No. 66 Bus on Hashomer Street, corner Jabotinsky Road. As said, six people were wounded. The police cordoned off the area and are conducting searches. The bus passengers and pedestrians are being questioned.

AFP: PLO Force-17 Claims Credit

NC141009 Paris AFP in English 0953 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Jerusalem, Feb 14 (AFP) — Six people were injured in a bomb attack on a bus in the suburbs of Tel Aviv today which was claimed by the Palestine Liberation Organization's Force-17 guerrilla corps in a telephone call to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here.

The caller warned there would be "other operations in the struggle against our enemies," but gave no indication of when or where.

Several dozen Arab suspects were arrested following the explosion today, police said.

The bomb exploded aboard a bus near a meeting point for Palestinian workers from the occupied territories, between the orthodox Jewish community of Bene Beraq and the district of Pardes Kaz. There were no serious injuries.

A small bomb went off near a bus stop in the town of Afula in northern Israel yesterday but no one was injured.

ASL Soldier Killed, 3 Wounded in S. Lebanon Explosion

TA121112 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] A soldier of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] was killed and three others were injured when a roadside bomb exploded this morning near the town of Bint Jubayl in the security zone. The bomb weighed approximately 25 kg. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht learned from ASL headquarters that the bomb had been planted very close to a UNIFIL position and that the terrorists had taken advantage of the presence of the UN soldiers to take cover.

ASL Tank Hits Mine; Village Straffed in Retaliation

TA121701 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] An army of southern Lebanon tank this morning hit a mine near the border of the security strip. No one was hurt. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that after the incident, the ASL opened tank and machinegun fire at the Shi'ite village of Kafrah and one house was damaged.

IDF, UNIFIL Exchange Accusations on Al-Tiri Incident

TA131207 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Reports have been issued on yesterday's incident involving Irish soldiers in the Shi'ite village of Al-Tiri. The Israelis and the army of southern Lebanon say that the UNIFIL soldiers delayed a pursuit by the south Lebanese of a terrorist band that had planted an explosive charge which killed a south Lebanese army soldier. The UNIFIL report says that the ASL search of the area resulted in the burning of three homes and shots fired above the heads of Irish soldiers. The Irish brigade commander was due to meet on the incident with an Israeli liaison officer.

Mulpoc Ends Meeting, Adopts Resolutions

AB131150 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Council of Ministers meeting of the Multinational Programming and Operational Center [Mulpoc] for West Africa, ended this afternoon in Lome. During the 3-day meeting, the ministers examined the dossiers prepared by experts of member-countries and those of the Economic Commission for Africa, ECA. Their discussions centered on problems of drought, desertification, the economic crisis, the progress on the creation of the subregional center for research on building materials, and in particular the integration of women in the development process in 1985.

At the end of this ninth ministerial council meeting of the Mulpoc, participants adopted a number of resolutions aimed at reviving the institution. Among the resolutions are the reexamination of the socioeconomic conditions of the subregion and the promotion of agricultural production with increased and adequate use of fertilizers. The meeting also called for the holding of a seminar on the fight against desertification in West Africa.

Other areas in which resolutions were adopted relate in particular to the issue of setting up in Togo a subregional center for research on building materials and the integration of women in development process. The Council of Ministers also agreed on the need to strengthen Mulpoc and to this end, it set up a 10-member adhoc committee to redefine the areas of activities and the role of the organization, in view of the socioeconomic changes that have taken place in the subregion. The member-countries of this adhoc committee are: Ivory Coast, Gambia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo.

The next ministerial council meeting of Mulpoc for West Africa will be held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Somali Delegate Denies Split in OATUU

AB120937 Paris AFP in English 0727 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Nairobi, Feb 12 (AFP) — The latest dissension in the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) took a new turn when a group of delegates who attended its special congress in Ghana at the weekend said here Tuesday that only two delegations had walked out instead of the reported 29.

The leader of the Somali delegation, Mohamed Farah Issa, who is also president of the General Federation of Somali Trade Unions, said only Zambia and Cameroon had walked out of the congress. The rest, he said, were not eligible to vote due to some technicalities. According to Mr Issa, they could not vote because "either their national unions had not paid up their affiliation fee in full, were members of other international trade unions, or had more than one trade union in their countries. Even if they had remained in the congress hall, they could not have voted according to Article Number Eight of the OATUU Constitution, which bars member unions with double affiliation from voting," Mr Issa said. He said Zambia and Cameroon, which were eligible to vote, had walked out after their attempt to amend Article Number Eight failed.

Reports from Accra said the organisation had split into two with the smaller one of 13 delegations re-electing the incumbent Dennis Akumu of Kenya, who has been secretary-general for the past 13 years. The reports said the dissidents appointed their own executive and that both groups were calling themselves the OATUU.

Mr Issa said the "smaller" executive was legitimate because it was properly constituted, as the congress electing it had remained quorate despite the walk-out. The smaller group comprises Burundi, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Libya, Mauritania, Mozambique, Somalia, Sudan and Tanzania.

The other group comprises Algeria, Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The dissidents accused Mr Akumu of rampant corruption and mismanagement, and demanded that he step down. The last OATUU congress held in January 1985 in Nigeria also broke down in disarray over financial matters.

ALGERIA

Libya's Jallud Departs After Talks

LD131738 Algiers APS in Arabic 1640 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Algiers, 13 Feb (APS) — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Revolutionary Command, left Algiers this evening.

He was seen off at Houari Boumediene airport by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee, Abdelkader Ben Kaci, head of the Department of International Affairs and Cooperation at the Presidency, and a number of members of the Permament Secretariat and the ambassadors of the two countries.

Before his departure, Staff Major Jallud gave a statement to the press, in which he said in particular: "During our stay we carried out intensive discussions and formed an Algerian-Libyan working group to review bilateral relations between Pesident Chadli Bendjedid and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Ain Amenas recently."

Discussing the talks he had during his stay in Algeria, Major 'Abd al-Salam Jalud Said that during the talks, which took place in a fraternal atmosphere, we talked about the bilateral cooperation between the two countries and other issues, which included in particular the international oil market and its effects on OPEC. We also talked about the situation in the Arab world, West and East

Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud concluded his statement by thanking the FLN for the warm reception he and the accompanying delegation were given in Algeria.

Tripoli on Talks

LD132249 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and the accompanying Libyan Arab delegation have concluded a 4-day visit to sisterly Algeria and returned to Tripoli this evening. Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Algerian FLN Party, was in the forefront of those who saw Staff Major Jallud off when he left Houari Boumedienne Airport.

Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud told reporters at Houari Boumedinne airport that the two fraternal delegations, Libyan Arab and the Algerian, had carried out intensive work and acted as a single Arab team. He declared that there is a political will in the two fraternal countries to crystallize a unionist action based on a dialogue between the brothers of both countries lasting more then 16 years. He said this unionist action stems from the fraternal spirit left by the visit of the leader of the revolution and President Chadli Benjedid in the town of Ain Amenas on 28 January. Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud added in his statement that they were able to complete a work that constitutes a unionist move between Libya and Algeria, a unionist move in the Arab Maghreb, a unionist move at the level of our Arab nation. He stressed that the brothers in the two countries will meet once more so that this action can take popular steps.

Albanian Foreign Minister Meets Assembly Leader

LD130225 Algiers APS in English 1020 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Algiers, 12/2/86 (APS) — Talks gathered today the head of People's National Assembly (APN) Rabah Bitat and Albanian Foreign Minister Mr. Reis Malile. The two sides focused on perspectives to expand cooperation between the two countries and the two parliaments. They also exchanged views on the international situation.

Commerce Minister, France's Cresson on Cooperation

LD121129 Algiers APS in English 1006 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Algiers, 12/2/86 (APS) — Works of the 4th session of the Algero-French joint commission were sanctioned yesterday by a proceedings of cooperation which was signed by the Trade Minister Abdelaziz Khellef and the French Minister of External Trade Mrs. Edith Cresson.

Mr. Khellef qualified this session of an "interesting" one since a global approach of the bilateral cooperation was outlined. He also mentioned the new dimension of the Algero-French cooperation registered thanks these discussions.

Interviewing on her turn, during a press conference, Mrs. Edith Cresson qualified as "satisfying the results of this session which will have enabled to take stock of bilateral relations and to define certain orientations in order to promote cooperation between the countries".

The French minister further spoke about the field of action favourable to the Algero-French cooperation and regarding sectors of agriculture, housing and transports, insisting on the wide possibilities of cooperation in the agricultural field, pointing out the progress achieved in that frame and the availability of the French partner to develop this cooperation including the agro-alimentary sector. She further referred to the international economic crisis which has upset certain data.

In this regard, she stressed that there are less and less big contracts and that the interest should be centered on on the small and the medium entreprises notably fields of the maintenance, follow-up and the technological transfer.

Examining the exchanges between the two countries, Mrs. Cresson noted before all the doubling of the volume of these exchanges within four years. The commercial excess in favour of France (1 billion of F.F.) will not be maintained with the prospect of the cooperation development.

Foreign Minister Meets With French President

For APS and French media reports on the meeting in Paris between Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and French President Francois Mitterand, please see the France section of the 13 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

LIBYA

Armed Forces Continue Maneuvers in Gulf of Sidra

LD131503 Tripoli JANA in English 1415 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 2, Feb 13, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — The naval, air and air defence Libyan Arab Forces continued yesterday their manoeuvres for the fifth day running with live ammunition across the Mediterranean Sea outside the Gulf of Sidra. Mention should be made that these manoeuvres which started Saturday will continue until 18th instant.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Visiting Iranian Delegation

LD131855 Tripoli JANA in English 1816 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Athani 2, Feb. 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Today the leader of the revolution received the speaker and members of the Iranian delegation of the Consultative Assembly who are visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah nowadays.

Delegation Departs

LD131828 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Feb (JANA) — Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, head of the delegation of the Iranian Consultative Assembly, has stressed anew the solidarity and the standing of the Iranian people with the fraternal Libyan Arab people in resisting and confronting American imperialism and Zionism.

On his departure from Tripoli this evening together with the accompanying delegation, Khalkhali told JANA correspondent that his visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has achieved valuable results in the service of the two revolutions, the great al-Fatah revolution and the Iranian revolution.

Comment on Reagan Press Conference, Attitude

LD131737 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1330 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] American President Reagan held a press conference yesterday evening at which he spoke of the provative exercises by the American naval and air forces opposite the Libyan Arab shores. Asked why the American warships and aircraft did not cross latitude 32.30 which the brother commander of the revolution has called the latitude of death, the red line, Reagan gave ambiguous replies. He said: I do not know the nature of the powers on the spot there, the fleet has carried out several exercises and some of the exercises require the crossing by some planes and vessels of that latitude. I have given my approval of this in advance. I will give new orders in this respect. If they do not cross that latitude, itis because the exercises do not require to cross it.

The JANA commentator has said the Reagan statement indicates Reagan does not feel his international responsibility. For how can the head of the American Administration be ignorant of the nature of these serious exercises and the threat to peace and security they can pose in the Mediterranean and the world at large?

As to his statement; I have given my approval in advance regarding the crossing of the latitude 32.30 in the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra, this reflects Reagan's disregard for the sovereignty of states and the freedom of peoples and his lack of respect for international laws and the UN Charter. The statement also reflects arrogance of power and ignorance of the facts of history, a matter which former American President Carter had affirmed after the expiry of his presidency and his embarkation on a tour of 88 countries. Each time he visited a country, Carter used to say, I never knew that the people of that country possessed all these cultural capabilities and had built a civilization here or there. He forgot that the world was not the United States, but human civilizations established by the peoples throughout history.

The JANA commentator added: This shortcoming and ignorance about the world people's right to live in freedom and peace was what lies behind the American decisionmaking, a matter which made all the world peoples rise to fight the imperialist tendencies and the policies of containment, exploitation and oppression executed by the planners and implementers of the American policy.

As the world peoples have scored victories in the past over the American military might, the victories will continue.

Use of Arab Assets Against Imperialism Urged

LD141022 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 0215 GMT 14 Feb 86

["Hammers on Reality" program]

[Text] The revolutionary unionist meetings which take place regularly between the sincere leaderships of the Great September Revolution and the Progressive November Revolution all aim to pool the Arab popular material and moral capabilities and devise ways to use them in serving the ambitions of the entire Arab nation. They also aim to exploit all the Arab capabilities, which, if they were to be used for serving the pan-Arab battle against imperialism and the Zionist enemy, would have brought full victory for the Arab people and dealt a decisive reply to all the aggressive ambitions and threats by the enemies of the Arab people.

The Arab nation possesses sufficient strategic capabilities to equip it with military, economic, and human powers, which, if used properly after their pooling, could inevitably frighten and intimidate the invaders and those with ambitions on the destiny of the Arab people.

The Arab homeland, with its millions of square kilometers and its linkage of three continents, two oceans, and two seas has a strategic position and a geographic depth for the Arab homeland. It could acquire exteme importance if only the Arabs knew how to exploit it and use to it to achieve victory and insure for themselves protection from the dangers surrounding them, which are the byproduct of their division and dispersement. These in turn deprive them of the ability to have any influence in the face of the imperialist challenge and the Zionist aggression on the Arab nation, aimed at consecrating the usurpation and further expanding in the Arab homeland.

In this context, we wish to highlight one precise point, which constitutes only one of the capabilities of the Arab nation, which can endow the Arab nation with an Arab power able to influence the world map: By this, we mean the economic power which now has the ability to influence the world economy. If this source of power was exploited properly in the interest of the Arab homeland, the Arab people would attain a high level of cultural progress and security and a high degree of influence in the international arena.

This is what the Arab people now lack because of certain considerations that were imposed on them behind their backs by the work of foreign colonization and the dominant autocratic rulers that robbed the peoples of all the resources of their economic and political might and destroyed the human power of the Arab man, using him as a dummy to put into action when they liked, while sitting back and enjoying watching them.

Billions of Arab assets amassed in foreign banks outside the Arab homeland, billions of the Arab people's savings and oil revenues, for example, are now being used to serve the monopolies which benefit the countries opposed to the Arab nation, in manufacturing the weapons that are destroying all the Arabs. Thus, the Arabs help to destroy themselves. The weapons produced by the funds smuggled out are amassed in the racist countries with imperialist expansionist ambitions on the Arab homeland, such as the United States.

The Arab-Zionist wars which have taken place over scores of years were the results of the Arab assets investments which are being used to serve the interests of the imperialist powers. The Arab lands were occupied also because of the Arab assets. Lebanon, which presently is being destroyed, is also being destroyed because of the Arab assets. The destitution of the Palestine Arab people and the usurpation of their land is also the byproduct of the might of weapons produced by Arab assets. The flagrant U.S. challenge to the Libyan Arab Jamahiri people is also the byproduct of the exploitation and use of the Arab assets. The world peoples are now facing destruction and domination by weapons also produced by the Arab assets. The Zionist enemy's blustering and his imposition and consecration of his occupation, his arrogance, and bragging about his might are all the result of squandered Arab assets that the enemy recieves under the name of U.S. and European aid and grants.

Arab assets are thus in fact the principal and effective cause of the destruction of the Arab nation, because the Arab masses were excluded and prevented from participating in determining their fate themselves. Because of the autocratic regimes, the Arab masses are now threatened with annihilation and destruction after being deprived of their frozen assets abroad which they direly need for the development of their Arab homeland, the place where their assets should be invested to serve the interest of the Arab man. This cannot be achieved with the existence of selfish private interests. Nothing can serve the Arab masses' interests, which have nothing to do with the interests of the regional exploiters, unless these masses unify their capabilities and use them in facing up to the Zionist enemy, the imperialist enemy, and the enemies of the Arab people in general.

The Arab masses alone now are held responsible for shouldering their pan-Arab duties. They must face up to their destiny and future themselves. Waiting has been of no avail, after all the concommitants that have be placed around their necks. The vision of the masses is now clear and the masses must decide whether to be or not to be: either to decide their own future with a revolutionary Arab spirit and a free pan-Arab commitment or to accept being a tool of U.S. imperialism and being brought to their knees and being made to accept faits accomplis. The leadership of the great 1 September Revolution has refused to accept this. Faits accomplis mean capitulation. The Libyan people have had tragic experiences prior to their revolution. They lost half of their number in their war against the invading Italians, and had humiliating experiences during the British administration and the U.S. presence on their land and which protected the defunct tyranical regime.

The Libyan people can never go back. The same applies to the Algerian people, the people of the million martyrs, who can never forget the tragedies caused by French colonialism. They can never capitulate or accept faits accomplis.

The constant meetings of the two Arab peoples in the Jamahiriyah and Algeria are in response to popular calls from the peoples of both countries to pool their material and moral capabilities and utilize them to serve the Arab nation, liberate its lands, and repel aggression.

Tripoli Cites U.S. Organizations on Reagan Ban

LD141003 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Representatives of U.S. organizations that declared their defiance of Reagan's decision banning and punishing Americans who visit the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah held a press conference this evening at Africa hall at Bab al-Bahr Hotel in Tripoli. Several correspondents from news agencies and newspapers attended.

Vernon Bellecourt, chairman of the High Council of the Red Indian Nation in North America, read a statement at the beginning of the press conference in the name of all the organizations — the African Revolutionary Movement, Union of African Women, the Movement of New Africa, the Four Directions Movement of America, and a representative of Red Indians in the U.S. state of Dakota. He explained at the beginning of his statement that these organizations represent liberation movements and revolutionary and progressive forces in the United States. Bellecourts said: We know full well who are responsible for racial discrimination and international terrorism. They are the FBI, the CIA, imperialism and Zionism. He pointed out that the U.S. government and its organs continue to expel the original inhabitants and confiscate their land and political rights. He said Reagan continues to support the fascist government in El Salvador which killed more than 70,000 people over 7 years. Moreover, he also supports fascist rule in Guatemala where more than 80,000 nationals have been killed, and he continues to support the fascist regimes in Chile, the Philippines, and South Africa.

V. Bellecourt saluted the firm and courageous stand of the Libyan Arab people and their historic leadership in supporting freedom in the world. He pointed out that the visit of the U.S. delegates to the Jamahiriyah is an act of defiance by the members of these organizations to Reagan's decisions and demonstrates the practical support of the American people for the Libyan Arab people in confronting the economic measures Reagan has ordered to be taken against them. Bellecourt said: We all have the freedom to choose our friends, and we strongly refuse to concede our right by choosing the friends Reagan selects for us.

Representatives of the American organizations replied to questions by reporters about their decision to defy Reagan's order banning Americans from visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab jamahiriyah.

FLN's Messaadia Expresses Support for Libya

LD132236 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Algerian PLN party, declared today that any provocation against Libya is considered a provocation against Algeria and all the Arab nation. In a statement to a JANA correspondent in the Algerian capital Brother Messaadia added with regard to the provocative U.S. maneuvers off the Libyan shores, that the stance of Algeria on this issue is clear, and that any aggression on an Arab country is an aggression on the other because we are a one-nation and of the same destiny. Brother Messaadia said that imperialism is wrong in its calculations if it believes it is capable of frightening us and of intimidating us with the policy of the big stick because as peoples we have destroyed not long ago the shackles of exploitation by relying on ourselves and on our limited resources, and we succeeded in liberating ourselves.

MAURITANIA

Foreign Ministry Appeals For End to Iran-Iraq War

LD132312 Nouakochott Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation this evening issued the following statement:

The Foreign Ministry has followed with full concern the new attack launched by Iran 4 days ago against Iraq. On this occasion the ministry expresses its concern about this escalation which constitutes a dangerous development in this raging war between brothers. The ministry calls upon the Iranian and Iraqi leaders to act responsibly and with wisdom to end this destructive war which in no way serves the highest interests of the two brotherly and neighborly peoples.

Dialogue, the tolerant Islamic teachings, and respect for the principles of international norms and law are the only adequate basis for the search for a just and lasting solution to this conflict. The resort to arms will lead only to the deepening of the abyss and the fanning of the fire of hatred.

In any case the Islamic Republic of Mauritania remains convinced that these two brotherly Muslim countries have to turn towards the clear recommendations of the Islamic Conference Organization and other international organizations, calling for dialogue as a means of putting an end to the killing of human beings, and for the sake of directing all of their powers towards the true battle — the battle of development in peace, amity and good neighborliness, and to face up to the common enemy.

The international community and especially the Arab and Islamic nation has to act quickly to end this conflict and to let wisdom and reason prevail.

In this respect the Islamic Republic of Mauritania hails Iraq's declared preparedness to conduct negotiations.

MOROCCO

FRG's Genscher Holds Talks With Filali

LD131339 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, FRG foreign minister, held a 2-hour working session this morning in Rabat with Mr Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

On arrival in Rabat this morning for an official visit, the German minister stressed that the FRG Government attaches special interest to the current visit given the deep-rooted ties of friendship between the two countries and their strong economic relations. The German minister said that his country is interested in knowing the points of view of Moroccan officials regarding the important issues of the region, and given that West Germany is a member of the EEC, Bonn is interested in Morocco's aspirations toward the community.

We are aware, Mr Genscher says, the Mediterranean sea does not separate Europe from the Arab countires. Quite the contrary, it brings the two sides closer together and makes the Europeans and Arabs neighbors. This is a matter that prompts us to reinforce cooperation with the countries bordering the Mediterranean basin and makes Europeans feel that the problems of the region are their own problems.

The German Foreign Minister stressed that his country is conscious of the dangers looming over peace, especially in the Middle East region.

DPA: Morocco Dissatisfied With EEC Mandate

LD141119 Hamburg DPA in German 1001 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Rabat, 14 Feb (DPA) — Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher ended his 1-day talks with the Moroccan Government in Rabat today. Speaking to journalists before flying on to Marrakesh, where he is to meet with King Hassan II at lunchtime, Genscher summed up his visit, the first to Morocco by a German foreign minister for 18 years, as satisfactory.

It was learned from the German side that Morocco is evidently most dissatisfied with the mandate which the EEC Commission has been given by the governments for new negotiations with the Mediterranean countries. The mandate allows little scope and offers no "prospects" for Morocco, where about 3 million people are directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture. The German side said Genscher promised that Bonn will support Morocco's rightful interests. He also pointed out, however, that Morocco could make use of the opportunities offered by the further development of the community by beginning in the longer term to restructure its economy. The Moroccan side favorably received Genscher's proposals for preparing the way for more industrial investment through direct contacts with German industry. German delegation sources said Genscher showed understanding for Morocco's desire for greater German economic and financial assistance. At present it receives less than DM50 million, which is only half the amount which the Federal Republic gives to smaller Tunisia.

The issue of future economic relations between the EEC and the Maghreb is likely to play a major role in Genscher's visit to Tunisia. He will arrive in Tunis this evening and spend a day in discussions with the Tunisian Government before returning to Bonn Saturday.

DPA Report on Talks

LD131621 Hamburg DPA in German 1523 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Rabat, 13 Feb (DPA) — Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher on Thursday suggested increased European-Arab contacts to fight terrorism and to solve its fundamental problem and the Palestinians' right to self-determination. On the first day of his almost 2-day visit to Rabat Genscher promised his Moroccan counterpart Abdellatif Filali that the EEC foreign ministers will examine the possibility of Near East involvement by the European countries at their next meeting in late February.

During the 2-hour exchange of views between the two foreign ministers, Genscher reaffirmed that the FRG and her EEC partners continue to stand by the EEC's 1980 Venice Declaration on the Near East, delegation circles said. He further spoke in favor of supporting King Husayn of Jordan's peace efforts and those of other moderate governments.

Genscher and Filali agreed during the discussions to introduce a "new dynamic" into the relations between the two countries.In answer to the Moroccan worries expressed by Filali that agricultural exports to the EEC might be harmed by Spain's and Portugal's entry, Genscher said that Bonn will support as far as it is able Rabat's interests in the forthcoming talks between the EEC Commission and the states adjoining the Mediterranean. He said that the reduciton of the hitherto high external tariffs of the Iberian countries to the EEC level has increased the sales opportunities for industrial goods from Morocco.

During a toast in the evening, Genscher once more emphasized the connection between terrorism and the unsolved Near East problem. "The bloody trail of terrorism which runs through the Near East states as clearly as it does through Europe is a frightening warning that the time has at last come to deal with the unsolved Near East problem firmly and decisively." The EEC is prepared to develop "operative ideas" as a contribution to bringing renewed impetus to the peace efforts of those immediately concerned.

SUDAN

Uganda Delegation Met With Okello Group in Juba

EA132049 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Felix Onama, head of the Ugandan delegation that visited the country recently, has stressed that Sudanese officials have stated that not an inch of Sudanese territory will be used for attacks on Uganda or any other state.

Mr Onama added that the delegation had visited Juba town and met a delegation from General Okello. The changes that have occurred in Uganda were explained. The fact that the new government's policies are not based on racial or religious discrimination was pointed out. Mr Onama asked Okello's representatives to convey this offer [as heard] to members of the former government who are in Sudan.

Official Confers With Romanian, Somali Envoys

JN131019 Khartoum SUNA in English 0935 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum Feb 13 (SUNA) —TMC Member Gen. Yusuf Husayn and the ambassador of Romania yesterday reviewed the outcome of Husayn's recent visit to Bucharest. Husayn said the Romanian officials had promised to send drugs and medical equipment to Sudan, to increase scholarships for Sudanese students and to set up agricultural and industrial projects with their cost to be paid out of their revenue.

He said the Romanians and also agreed to cooperate with Sudan in the petroleum sphere. The Sudanese-Romanian ministerial committee was agreed to meet on Feb. 26 to discuss promotion of bilateral cooperation he said. He said President Ceasescu has invited Gen. Siwar al-Dhahab and Premier Daf'allah to visit Romania. Meanwhile General Husayn also received yesterday the ambassador of Somalia and discussed with him bilateral relations and the political situation in the region.

Committee Formed To Monitor Integration With Egypt

JN131234 Khartoum SUNA in English 1034 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb. 13 (SUNA) — The Council of Ministers yesterday decided to form a ministerial committee to devise a definite plan on the process on integration between Sudan and Egypt. The Council assigned its premier to take the appropriate measures for safeguarding the neutrality of the civil service and prohibiting government employees from practicing politics. The Council urged the economic ministerial committee to continue imposing the government's resolution on combatting smuggling of goods.

Clashes At Cairo University Branch in Khartoum

JN131807 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum Feb 13 (SUNA) — Clashes continued today for the second day in Cairo University branch campus between different political factions.

The clashes caused the injury of 7 students and a policeman. Students at the university said the clashes took place when the political committee which comprises mainly the leftists held a symposium at the campus and decided to start a sit-in protesting the dissmisal of a student female from the boarding house.

The Moslem Brothers an offshoot of the National Islamic Front attacked the other wing in a bid to stop the sit-in.

The political committee group has suceeded to start their sit-in but clashes continued again, a matter which led to the interference of riot police.

Police sources reaffirmed its full control over the situation in order to avoid any further clashes.

The clashes started current week when the students union dominated by the Moslem Brothers dismissed a student from the boarding house because she facilitated a journalist job on interviewing the students living in the boarding house.

CAMEROON

Chadian Envoy Delivers Message to Biya; Comments

AB071318 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Ndjamena is fighting very hard to recover Chad's territorial integrity. This was stated this afternoon by Chadian envoy Mbaibikel Ngarari following the audience granted him by the head of state at the Palais de l'Unite. Mr Ngarari, who is secretary of state for interior and administrative reform, specified that he had delivered to President Paul Biya a message from his counterpart, Hissein Habre, concerning the presence of Chadian refugees in Cameroon. According to the envoy, many of these refugees have been expressing the desire to return to Chad.

The envoy also talked to the national press about bilateral cooperation. He told Michel Abanda:

[Begin recording] [Ngarari] I was bearer of a message from President El-Hadj Hissein Habre to his brother President Paul Biya. The message concerns the position of our compatriots whom Cameroon kindly welcomed to its territory. Among these compatriots, we distinguished two categories: those who came before the events we experienced and those who came here because of the events. We are now aware of the manifest desire of these refugees to return home, particularly those of them who had fled the territory as a result of the events.

[Abanda] Mr Minister, what is now the atmosphere inside Chad as far as security is concerned?

[Ngarari] If you mean the situation inside the Chadian borders, the problem is quite serious. [Passage indistinct] As you know, quite a large part of the territory is occupied by Libyan forces. I simply want to reassure you that, in the part of the territory under our government's control, there is complete security and calm.

[Abanda] You have talked about Chad as a whole. Does one not have some impression that Ndjamena's Chad is getting somewhat bogged down in the present situation, the situation of division?

[Ngarari] Ndjamena is fighting very hard to recover the integrity of the territory. Ndjamena is not getting bogged down anywhere. It is a question of means. The colonel of Tripoli possesses means of war that Ndjamena lacks. But we remain confident.

[Abanda] May I know the main projects Cameroon and Chad are now examining and how are the two countries cooperating as far as Chad's reconstruction is concerned?

[Nagarari] Cameroon and Chad are united first of all by historical, economic, and (?sociocultural) ties. Also, there iscooperation within the framework of the Lake Chad Basin Commission. As far as agriculture is concerned, Chad and Cameroon are organizing themselves and are doing everything to ensure the development of their agriculture. [End recording]

Biya Accepts Reagan Invitation To Visit U.S.

AB131512 Yaounde Domestic Service in English
1400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The head of state, President Paul Biya, will make an official work visit to the United States of America as from 27 February. The work visit is on the invitation of the U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Nation Will Not Attend Francophone Summit

AB131520 Yaounde Domestic Service in English
1400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cameroon will not take part in the first Franco-African summit [as heard] to take place in Paris soon. This was revealed by Guy Penne, special French adviser on African affairs to President Francois Mitterrand during a stopover in Yaounde on his tour of some selected African countries. (?Asked about his audience) with President Paul Biya, the special French-African affairs advisor said he discussed the situation in Chad with the head of state. Mr Guy Penne has been to Chad and Gabon respectively.

CHAD

CDR Reported Preparing for Talks With Ndjamena

AB071454 Paris AFP in English 1415 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, Feb 7 (AFP) — One of Chad's most important opposition groups, the Democratic Revolutionary Council [CDR], is preparing to negotiate with the Ndjamena Government, apparently unbeknown to its leader who is visiting Paris.

The CDR's European representative, Thiam Tidjani, said today that he did not think the movement's Secretary-General Acheikh Ibn Oumar would disapprove of the presence of the CDR delegation here, but added, "if he disagrees, he would exclude himself."

And Mr Tidjani said the CDR should withdraw from the Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) headed by Goukouni Oueddei, which is still holding the northern part of Chad with Libyan backing after being ousted from Ndjamena by the forces of Hissein Habre in June 1982.

A CDR splinter group, the CDR Committee for Action and Coordination, headed by Senoussi Khatir, signed a reconciliation agreement with Ndjamena here on November 11 last year. It was followed by another small opposition movement, the Chadian Democratic Front of Dibril Djogo, on December 23.

Mr Tidjani said, "We are in Libreville to seek a negotiated solution to the Chadian problem."

Mr Ibn Oumar, who was held prisoner either by Mr Oukouni or the Libyans for several months last year, had talks in Paris today with Guy Penne, French President Francois Mitterrand's adviser on African affairs. Before leaving Tripoli for Paris he had said he would be informing the French authorities of "the newfound unity of the GUNT and his ideas on a political settlement of the Chadian conflict."

The CDR leader also said he would be going on to a number of African capitals, including Dakar, Brazzaville and Libreville.

Tidjani Expelled From CDR

AB081618 Paris AFP in French 1225 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 8 Feb (AFP) — Thiam Tidjani, the European representative of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR, one of the major components of the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government], the armed opposition group fighting against Hissein Habre), was expelled today from the movement.

In a press statement issued today in Paris, CDR Secretary General Acheikh Ibn Oumar accused Thiam Tidjani — currently in Libreville where he expressed favor for the opening of negotiations with Ndjamena — of having used his name. He tried, the statement continued, to engage the CDR, "an integral part of the GUNT [words indistinct] in a purely individual manner without in any way being mandated to do so on such a crucial question as national reconciliation in Chad at a time when the very physical existence of the state and people of Chad is a problem."

Thiam Tidjani, the statement added, did not only show an irresponsible lack of seriousness, but also put an end to his own [words indistinct], as well as his [words indistinct].

The minister of state for the coordination of GUNT and the CDR secretary general finally urged "the soldiers of the National Liberation Army, Chadian progressive forces, and Chad's friendly countries to double their vigilance in order to abort all maneuvers to sow confusion and to prevent the search for a veritable negotiated solution to the Chadian problem.

CDR Official on France's Role in Negotiations

AB112210 Paris AFP in French 1820 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 11 Feb (AFP) — France is an "unavoidable actor" in the political solution of the Chadian conflict, although it has often played the role of "the ruffian and the swindler, never a good role," Acheikh Ibn Oumar, Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] minister of state for coordination stated Tuesday at a press conference in Paris.

Acheikh Ibn Oumar, secretary general of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR, one of the major components of GUNT), has for 1 week now been leading an official mission of "information and explanation" to the French authorities. "The Ndjamena regime thank only French military support," he said, and the support of France, to which we are historically linked, can be valid in the field of reconciliation." [quotation marks as received]

After emphasizing that GUNT "existed quite well militarily and politically," he indicated that the situation in Chad remained "extremely serious" despite a "relatively long" lull in (fighting). It is, therefore, crucial and urgent that contacts should be made at all levels in order to arrive at a national reconciliation between the GUNT and the Ndjamena group.

Speaking about the clashes that occured on Monday at Kouba Olanga, about 550 km north of Ndjamena, Acheikh Ibn Oumar states that it concerns a well located in a no-man's land where frequent patrols from both sides often results in friction.

"Libya's role is to support the National Liberation Army (ANL), he said. There is no real Libyan army in northern Chad. It is the ANL that holds the positions with the help of a few Libyans in the areas of technical assistance, supply, and logistics. It is out of the question to let Libya play any other role than that of support."

After Paris, Acheikh Ibn Oumar will go to Lagos, Libreville, and to Benin.

Official Meets With Guy Penne

AB081811 Paris AFP in French 1700 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 7 Feb (AFP) — Mr Acheikh Ibn Oumar, secretary general of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR), one of the most important components of the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] (armed opposition to Chadian President Hissein Habre), held discussions in Paris on Friday morning with Mr Guy Penne, African affairs adviser to the president of France.

Mr Ibn Oumar, who arrived in Paris last Monday, is charged with an "information and explanation" mission, according to the GUNT spokesman in Paris, Mr Abderrahmane Moussa. The spokesman added that Mr Ibn Oumar, who holds the position of minister of state for coordination within the GUNT, had met Mr Michel Chatelais, director of African and Madagascan affairs, at the Quai d'Orsay [French Foreign Office] on Thursday. Mr Moussa said the discussions were held in a "good atmosphere."

Before leaving Tripoli, Mr Ibn Oumar had told some journalists that he will inform his French hosts about "the rediscovered unity of the GUNT and its conceptions of a political settlement of the Chadian conflict."

Station Commentary

AB122226 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] While the Libyans are massively engaging themselves in Chad, some individuals in their pay have been cynically asserting the contrary. And yet we have irrefutable proof.

Listening to statements at this time on some radio stations, we have the right to wonder what is in the minds of certain foreign journalists. In its analysis, the station commentary yesterday exposed the skepticisms of a certain foreign press in the hands of the subversionists. But what is most revealing for Chadians is the fact that some individuals shamelessly use certain press organs that are supposed to be objective, to spread Libyan propaganda.

An example of this is what was said by a certain Acheikh Ibn Oumar. Acheikh, who was released after nearly a year of imprisonment, has magically gained the status of a politician with an important amount of influence in Chad. This puppet has been propelled onto the stage and allowed to speak on radios to tell lies. The man who is being presented as the third man said this morning, for example, that it was the troops of the so-called National Liberation Army that attacked government positions at Kouba Olanga and Oum Chalouba-Kalait. But, as the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Comrade Gouara Lassou said, realities on the battleground, like seized documents such as identity cards issued by the Libyan Army, prove that it was mercenaries and the Libyan Army who attacked the positions of the Chadian National Armed Forces. We saw these documents, which are authentic and which have been verified. The photographs, the writing, the color of the documents are all elements [words indistinct].

But why this attitude? That is the question. This question for the forewarned Chadian essentially disproves that Acheikh Ibn Oumar is the head of any faction. Acheikh is the one who the Libyans imprisoned for a long time and who is, at present, paying the price for his release from Libyan prison because it is difficult to understand how someone who was destined to be executed by Al-Qadhdhafi has suddenly emerged on the political scene. The Chadian authorities have often repeated that the Transitional National Union Government does not exist. They are puppets and traitors who owe their existence [words indistinct] only to the Libyan umbrella, to Libyan salvation. We know that their faction's Libyan inventions begun in June 1982. So the scenario was mounted from Tripoli to Seba and consists of the construction of a pseudo-opposition movement with an outmoded name, the GUNT, whose initial mission was not and could never be in the interest of the Chadian nation.

This is why Acheikh has left prison today with very precise instructions — that of reciting the Libyan stand to predesignated interlocuters. It is to force the militants to accept the establishment in Ndjamena of a government that would facilitate the annexation of Chad by Libya. That is the crux of the matter, coupled with the personal considerations of an individual. Acheikh is seeking his own rehabilitation. It is true that one does not die of shame, but what the spokesmen of the slave traders should realize is that the realities on the battleground have, indeed, been established. The fighting is, indeed, taking place. Elements of proof exist with the seizure of documents and the capturing of prisoners.

One fact about the government of the Third Republic is that Chad respects the sovererignty of states. Individuals may therefore be received by any country, but it is this sovereignty that Chad would like to be recognized because we are a state. This has nothing in common with an organization of individuals seeking recognition by an another state, or by international opinion, such as the residue of an institution that merely exists in name and which is complacently called the GUNT. The government of the Third Republic does not practice the policy of [word indistinct]. This government does not need to, since the government of the Third Republic has proven its worth. It is a government that did not seek its legality at Cotonou, Accra, or Libya. Nowhere. It is a government that does not need to be a vassal, since it is accepted by a people who have suffered for too long from slavery and feudalism. This is the real state of affairs in Chad and the victory of the determined fighting Chadian people against the enemies of Chad from all quarters will be a brilliant one. Libya has learned this lesson once more to its detriment. Chad, and the Chadian people, are determined to defend their territorial integrity.

Penne Meets With Habre, Talks to Reporters

AB131120 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] President Mitterrand's special adviser for African affairs arrived in our capital early this morning. Mr Guy Penne, who was immediately received for 1 hour by the president of the Republic, El-Hadj Hissein Habre, left shortly after for another destination, Libreville. Before leaving Ndjamena, he answered questions by press representatives. He said:

[Begin recording] [Penne] I am accompanied by [words indistinct]. We are on a tour of Africa. We will soon go to Libreville to meet with President Bongo and tomorrow I will be in Lome, where I will meet with General Eyadema. I took the opportunity of this tour to make a stopover in Ndjamena in order to meet with President Hissein Habre. This morning, I was received for more than 1 hour by President Hissein Habre. It is evident that in view of the events that have just occurred here in Chad, our discussions were [words indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Penne] Listen, for a long time, we have known through announcements and what I would call psychological preparations [words indistinct] that something was going to happen on the 16th parallel. A few days ago, I received a delegation of the Transitional National Union Government in Paris. The delegation told me that it believed that any intervention in Chad would cause disaster among the Chadians. [Passage indistinct] The president of the Republic of France has often repeated that there can be no military solution to the Chadian problem [words indistinct]

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Penne] I do not think that this problem is on the agenda of the conference of the heads of state and government of French-speaking countries. [Passage indistinct]

[Reporter] Mr Adviser, France has a very important role to play in the Chadian crisis. What assistance should Chad expect from France? Will France's role be a military one or will it be only political?

[Penne] [Passage indistinct]

FDT Approves Reconciliation Agreement

AB112149 Paris AFP in French 1858 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, 11 Feb (AFP) — The National Council of the Chadian Democratic Front (FDT), at its meeting held from 7 to 10 February in Libreville, approved the reconciliation agreement signed with Ndjamena by General Jibril Negue-Djogo in the Gabonese capital on 23 December 1985.

It is recalled that this reconciliation agreement, which was signed between the FDT and the Ndjamena government, particularly provides for the release of all the political prisoners, a "minor cabinet reshuffle," and the participation of the FDT "in the management of the state at all levels."

During a press conference on Tuesday, the FDT president, Gen Negue-Djogo, called on "all the Chadians who are still in exile to follow the path of peace," for Chad "is always threatened in its existence." According to him, reconciliation between all Chadians is necessary to "prevent foreign powers from having a pretext to intervene in Chad."

Questioned on the fighting in Kouba Olanga (northern Chad), which was announced by Ndjamena on Monday, Gen Negue-Djogo felt that "there was no major risk of a resumption of the armed conflict in Chad now."

Delegation Leaves for Gabon to Meet Opposition

AB132042 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Chadian authorities remain constant in their national reconciliation policy, even though this policy has been rendered secondary because of the Libyan aggression, which remains the fundamental problem. Thus, the Government of Chad has sent a delegation to the Gabonese capital. The delegation is led by Amos Reoulengar, secretary of state for economy and finance.

The arrival in the Gabonese capital of the government delegation coincides with the presence of Thiam Tidjani, former member of the Revolutionary Democratic Council [CDR] and spokesman of that faction in Paris. Another Chadian opposition personality is Colonel Kotiga, leader of the Red Codos of the Moyen Chari. Col Kotiga also arrived in Libreville yesterday.

It should be recalled that Thiam Tidjani recently withdrew from the CDR group by saying that he favored negotions with the government of the Third Republic.

100,000 Demonstrate for Government in Ndjamena

AB132036 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpts] There is no weapon stronger than the determination of a people to defend their freedom. There is no weapon more efficient than the determination of a people to fight against any enemy in defense of the fatherland. Examples in world history are numerous. The people have always overcome their attackers, they have always defeated their invaders, and we do not need to look for examples elseshere. Our country, Chad, is experiencing this situation. Through their willpower, motivation, and determination of our fighting forces, our valiant Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] are inflicting heavy losses on the Libyan annexationists, who, in their vain attempt to annex Chad, have been fleeing from artillery fire of the Chadian National Armed Forces.

As the executive secretary of the Executive Bureau of the Central Committee of the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR], Comrade Gouara Lassou said this morning, victory is certain because our cause is a just one. Spurred on by this hope and by the fairness and nobility of the cause that the FANT is defending, militants of the UNIR regional committees of Ndjamena, [name indistinct], and Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti, jointly organized a mammoth demonstration this morning. This demonstration was in support of the president of the Republic and UNIR founding chairman, supreme head of the Army for the noble mission of national reconciliation consistently undertaken since the beginning of the Third Republic. Though the president of the Republic, the militants expressed their support for our valiant FANT, which currently is fighting the enemies and their mercenaires, and infamous Islamic legion. This morning there was a lot of activity on the main roads of the capital: Bokassa Avenue, Mobutu Avenu, and Avenue Charles de Gaulle were full of life. More than 100,000 people took to the streets to express their anger.

The motion of support for the UNIR founding chairman, which was presented this morning to the executive secretary of the Executive Bureau of the UNIR Central Committee, Comrade Gouara Lassou, expressed the commitment, the general mobilization, and the determination of UNIR militants to fight this war against the fascist Libyans, and to acheive final victory.

'Enemy' Attack Reported on Forces at Ziguey

AB131928 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1850 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Confused enemies took the risk of attacking the position of our fighting forces at Ziguey today at 1600. The Chadian National Armed Forces reacted vigorously and are currently chasing away the invaders.

Envoy Comments on Attack

AB131930 Paris AFP in French 1842 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 13 Feb (AFP) — "Libyan forces attacked the Ziguey government post, some 300 km north of Ndjamena, in western Chad and south of the 16th parallel, Allam-mi Ahmad, Chadian ambassador to France stated on Thursday in Paris.

Also on Thursday, "Libyan troops" increased their pressure on Oum Chalouba, some 750 km north-west of Ndjamena, where armed clashes have been taking place for the past 48 hours.

This offensive, Mr Allam-mi said, is "a confirmation of Tripoli's strategy, which consists of imposing on the international community its solution of the Chadian problem by maintaining its military contingent and by installing in Ndjamena a government loyal to it."

Asked about current diplomatic moves aimed at finding a political solution to the Chadian conflict, Mr Allam-mi wondered about the role played by "certain friendly countries that, unconsciously, have fallen into Libyan snares," he said. "The Chadian Government has never refused to negotiate with the opposition and agreements concluded recently in Libreville with some factions of the opposition prove this," he added.

"The pressure supposedly necessary to be brought upon Ndjamena is therefore unfounded and can only constitute an excuse for the Libyan offensive," the Chadian ambassador said. "By this offensive, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is posing a challenge at the Chadian people, African countries, and friends of Chad. We have appealed to France and we hope the response will be commensurate with Tripoli's challenge. This is no longer the time to hesitate, but to act in the face of an enemy who does not understand diplomatic language."

On his part, the spokesman of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT — armed opposition to Hissein Habre) blamed the responsibility for the fighting on the Ndjamena forces, and reaffirmed that Kouba Olanga (550 km northeast of Ndjamena) and Oum Chalouba were under his control. "Enemy elements are in disarray and they are being pursued near the town of Biltone (90 km north of Abeche," a communique added.

Finally the GUNT called on "all friendly countries and others" to avoid "intervening or inflaming this conflict, which is purely a Chadian one."

Fighting in Oum Chalouba Area Continues

AB131821 Paris AFP in French 1648 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Ndjamena, 13 Feb (AFP) — Fighting between the government Army and the Transitional National Union Government forces of Goukouni Oueddei was going on Thursday early in the afternoon at Oum Chalouba (325 km southeast Faya-Largeau), Chadian Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila announced in Ndjamena.

The minister has added, in a statement to the AFP, that fighting in Oum Chalouba, which entered its third day, had already caused "heavy losses" in the enemies' ranks. He further stated that the announcement of the acceleration of military equipment supply to Chad by France "is in line with Ndjamena's preoccupations, and is also an answer to" the wishes it has expressed in this regard.

Anti-Libyan Rallys Held

LD131550 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Chad: It seems that fighting is continuing around Oum Chalouba, almost 750 kms northeast of Ndjamena, where there was a demonstration of support this morning for the Chadian forces. According to our colleague Celestin Topona, 100,000 people took to the streets, shouting slogans hostile to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, all this took place an atmosphere of general mobilization.

The Chadian leadership has announced that the locality of Koro-Toro has been attacked by Libyan forces. Ndjamena radio has just announced that it has been taken back by the Chadian National Armed Forces, the FANT. The radio is still broadcasting military music and announcing that the Libyan forces are using heavy weapons, particularly heavy artillery. It is to be noted in passing that the Transitional National Union Government is denying that the Libyans are taking part in the fighting directly.

It appears that Guy Penne took advantage of his stopover in Libreville to meet the leader of the Moyen-Chari Codos [southern rebels], Colonel Alphonse Kotiga. The latter had been in the Gabonese capital for 24 hours. Guy Penne's agenda for today includes a quick visit to Yaounde in Cameroon, where he is expected by President Paul Biya. Also on today's agenda is a stopover at Lome in Togo.

GUNT: 700 Troops Captured

AB140804 Paris AFP in French 0727 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Feb (AFP) — The Transitional National Union Government (GUNT — Chadian opposition to President Hissein Habre's regime) announced on Thursday evening in Tripoli that it has captured 700 prisoners during the fighting that broke out between its troops and those of the Ndjamena regime in the northern part of Chad on Monday. According to Biasoumil Nadjita Yonhombel, the GUNT's minister of economy and finance, the opponents of Chadian President Hissein Habre captured 250 prisoners in the Kouba-Olanga region (550 kms northeast of Ndjamena) and 450 in the Oum Chalouba region (750 kms northeast of the Chadian capital). The GUNT also recovered 13 Brazilian-made Cascavel tanks, two of which were damaged and 11 in good condition, as well as a number heavy weapons and vehicles, Mr Biasoumil added.

"We lost an armoured car on the Oum Chalouba-Kalait front. We suffered five casualities and some wounded soldiers," he pointed out to AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE]. Mr Biasoumil said that these pieces of news were obtained from the GUNT's representatives in Sheba (Libya) and following communications with the interior of Chad. He stressed that the GUNT will soon demonstrate to the international opinion "the reality" of the fighting being carried out by the "fighters of the GUNT and not by Libyans." In conclusion, he said that the GUNT still controls Kouba Olanga and Oum Chalouba.

According to Ndjamena, the Chadian Armed Forces had quickly regained control of Kouba Olanga (taken over on Monday by the GUNT's forces), while fighting continued on Thursday afternoon at Oum-Chalouba.

Both Sides Claim Successes As Quiles Arrives

AU141127 Paris AFP in English 1111 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, Feb 14 (AFP) — The Chadian Government and its Libyan-backed opponents today both claimed success in renewed fighting in the north of the country, as French Defence Minister Paul Quiles began talks with the Ndjamena authorities on stepping up military aid to them.

Ndjamena's ambassador to paris, Ahmad allam-Mi said today that government forces were pursuing "routed Libyan troops" after repulsing an attack on Ziguey, 300 km (180 miles) north of the capital. Ziguey is well south of the 16th-parallel defence line established by the French when they sent in troops to stop the last rebel drive on Ndjamena in 1983.

"The situation is totally under the control of our forces in the Koro Toro and Kouba Olanga sectors, respectively 600 km (375 miles) and 550 km (350 miles) northeast of Ndjamena, and there has been no fighting there since Wednesday," the ambassador said.

On the other hand, the situation remains "lorrying" at Oum Chalouba, 750 km (465 miles) north of the capital, where "Libyan pressure" was increasing, Mr. Allam-mi added.

He denied a claim made yesterday by the rebel Transitional Government of National Union (Gunt) that government forces had lost the important towns of Arada and Biltine. However, GUNT spokesmen in Paris, Brussels and Tripoli said rebel forces had scored major successes, capturing 700 prisoners as well as weapons, armoured cars and other vehicles at little loss to themselves.

The GUNT's "minister for economy and finance," Biasoumil Nadjita, said in Tripoli that no Libyan troops were involved in the fighting. The GUNT, heaed by Goukouni Oueddeei, still holds large areas of the north after being ousted from power in Ndjamena by the present ruler, Hissein Habre, in 1982.

Observers here in the French capital have noted that the new fighting, which follows a lull of almost a year, comes just one month before the legislative elections in France, which supports the Habre government.

France had troops in Chad from August 1983 to November 1984. President Francois Mitterrand came under criticism for having pulled out the troops, despite of the fact that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had reneged on an agreement to pull his forces out of the north at the same time.

French President Francois Mitterrand said today he was following the developing situation in Chad "very closely," but he had not been in contact with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Speaking to reporters on a train taking him to Nevers, central France, Mr Mitterrand said he was awaiting a report on the situation from Mr Quiles. He noted that in a desert war like that of Chad "the attacker always has the advantage, but, afterwards, because of the distances involved, the situation is often reversed."

GABON

Chadian Delegation Arrives; Guy Penne Expected

AB121246 Paris AFP in French 1125 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, 12 Feb (AFP) — A Chadian Government delegation, led by Mr Amos Raoulengar, secretary of state for economy and commerce, arrived in Libreville Wednesday morning.

This arrival coincides with the presence in the Gabonese capital of Colonel Alphonse Kotiga, leader of the "Codos Rouges" [a guerrilla group] of Moyen-Chari (southern Chad), who arrived there from Cameroon Tuesday night, according to a reliable source. Also, still visiting Libreville is Mr Thiam Tidjani, who has just been expelled from the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR, an armed Chadian opposition movement and member of the Transitional National Union Government) of which he was the spokesman in Europe. Last week, Mr Tidjani publicly spoke in favor of a negotiation with the Ndjamena authorities.

Meanwhile, it has been recalled that the conference of the Chadian Democratic Front (FDT), which signed a reconciliation agreement with Ndjamena on 23 December, was held in Libreville from 7 to 10 February. Its members, who are led by General Negue Djogo, are still in the Gabonese capital.

Finally, Mr Guy Penne, French presidential adviser for African affairs, will arrive in the Gabonese capital on Wednesday.

Penne Ends Visit, Leaves for Cameroon, Togo

AB130920 Paris AFP in French 0757 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Libreville, 13 Feb (AFP) — France is to accelerate its aid to Chad in the area of weapons and equipment. This was stated Thursday morning in Libreville by Guy Penne, special adviser for African affairs to French President Francois Mitterrand. According to the French presidential adviser, the authorities in Ndjamena attribute the sudden rise of tension in the northern part of the country to the fact Tripoli believes the time is particularly favorable because of the French electoral campaign. Another reason is the reconciliation accords signed in recent months in Libreville between Ndjamena and various opposition movements.

Mr Guy Penne arrived in Libreville on Wednesday morning in the company of Joseph Franceschi, French secretary of state for elderly persons. He held several talks with Gabonese President Omar Bongo.

It is also said that the special adviser to President Mitterrand used the opportunity of this visit, which was scheduled several weeks ago, to meet in particular Colonel Alphonse Kotiga, leader of the "Red Codos" of the Moyen-Chari region (maquisards of the southern part of Chad) who arrived in the Gabonese capital Tuesday night. Mr Penne left Libreville early Thursday for Yaounde, where he will be received by Cameroonian President Paul Biya. He will leave a few hours later for Lome.

Chadian Factions Pursue Reconciliatory Efforts

AB131622 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpt] There is a lot of diplomatic activity in Libreville, Gabon. At the center of this activity is national reconciliation in Chad. Several heads of factions are meeting in the Gabonese capital. This meeting proves the determination of each and every one to end this fratricidal war that is tearing their country apart.

One of the delegations present in Libreville is the Chadian Democratic Front [FDT] of General Negue Djogo, which is holding its national council meeting, a meeting that will enable the Executive Bureau to report to the higher echelons of the movement, the National Council, on the contents of the agreement signed on 23 December 1985 with the Ndjamena government, a procedure that has been described as abnormal since the council should have been informed before the agreement was signed. Apart from this disagreement, members of the National Council of the FDT consider that the agreement has a catalytic effect that could promote national reconciliation in Chad.

Arab League's Klibi Ends visit, Speaks to Press

AB081300 Paris AFP in French 1114 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, 8 Feb (AFP) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left Libreville on Friday evening after a 24-hour visit to Gabon during which he was received by Gabonese President Omar Bongo.

Gabon "can play a leading role in Arab-African cooperation," Mr Klibi said before his departure. He also stressed that the agricultural food sector in Gabon should "interest Arab and in particular Kuwait capitals." The secretary general of the Arab League later noted that Arab-African cooperation "was developing in a satisfactory manner." "This cooperation," he stressed, "has led to a financial transfer of more than $9 billion in less than 10 years."

Mr Klibi also pointed out that this cooperation was not being effected with the aim of "winning the political support of either party," but that it was based on the "common feeling of belonging to the Third World." "It is a way of implementing South-South cooperation," he concluded.

ZAIRE

Parliamentarian Receives Soviet Charge d'Affaires

AB121151 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1830 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 12 Feb (AZAP) — On Tuesday, Citizen Kalume Mwana Kahambwe, first vice president of the Legislative Council, received from the hands of Pavel Krylov, charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Zaire, a declaration by the commissions on foreign affairs of the Council of the Union and the Council of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The ceremony took place at the Palace of the Nation.

In the declaration, the commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet expressed happiness with the decision of the UN General Assembly to declare 1986 an international year for peace and also expressed their support for its major objectives and programs. To promote a practical march toward a nuclear and chemical weapons-free world and finally toward an arms-free world, the document read, a new impulse must be given to all factors of the mechanism for the limitation of armament and for disarmament. Finally, the commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet expressed their hope that during this year, efforts by all governments, parliaments and peoples in their struggle to achieve a better turningpoint in world affairs, will be strenghtened.

According to the Soviet diplomat, Citizen Kalume highly appreciated the declaration and expressed support for the struggle by all peoples to achieve peace.

BENIN

ANR Chairman Receives Soviet Ambassador

AB131205 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] This morning, the chairman of the permanent committee of the ANR (Revolutionary National Assembly), Comrade Romain Vilon Guezo, received in audience the Soviet ambassador to Benin, his excellency, (Valentin Pavlov). After the audience, the Soviet ambassador briefed the press on talks with Comrade Vilon Guezo.

[Begin (Pavlov) recording] The discussions I just held with the chairman of the ANR permanent committee touched on bilateral issues and bilateral cooperation. A cooperation which develops smoothly in all fields, including the ties between our two parliaments. I take this opportunity to announce the forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union of an ANR delegation. I am convinced that this visit will help to further strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation which link our two parliaments. Our discussions also touched on the program of nuclear disarmament issued last 15 January by the CPSU general secretary, Comrade Gorbachev. [end recording]

His excellency Valentin Pavlov also informed Comrade Vilon Guezo of the preparatory meetings of the 22nd CPSU congress whose deliberations will start on 25 February.

GUINEA

Communique Issued on Visit by Liberia's Doe

AB131055 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 12 Feb 86

["Press Communique" issued in Conakry on the 1-day working visit by Liberian President Samuel Doe to Guinea on 12 February — read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Press communique issued after the working meeting between their excellencies Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, president of the Republic of Liberia, and Brigadier Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Committee of National Recovery [CMRN], president of the Republic of Guinea:

Within the framework of the necessary strengthening of political and moral unity of the African peoples and within the framework of promoting relations of sincere friendship and brotherly cooperation between the Republic of Liberia and the Republic of Guinea, his excellency Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, president of the Republic of Liberia, met in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, on Wednesday, 12 February 1986, his excellency Brigadier Lansana Conte, chairman of the CMRN, president of the Republic of Guinea. The two heads of state reviewed the international political situation and issues of common interest. On African issues, the two heads of state reiterated their unflinching support and their active solidarity to the African peoples struggling for their national independence and stressed the need to increase aid to liberation movements with a view to stepping up the process of elimination of the last bastion of colonialism in Africa, symbolized by apartheid.

In light of Africa's critical situation, the two heads of state welcomed the convening of a special session of the United Nations next May to consider the issue. The two leaders believe that this happy occasion will give Africa and other developing countries the opportunity to sensitive developed countries and the international opinion on the danger posed to international peace and security by the ever widening gap between developed countries on one hand and poor countries on the other.

The two heads of state examined the relations of cooperation between the two countries with a view to determining the immediate areas in which they can be implemented. To this end, the two heads of state deemed it fit to set up a grand joint cooperation commissioned which will draw up a scheduled for the meetings of experts of the two sides.

At the end of his visit, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, president of the Republic of Liberia, expressed his fraternal gratitude to his excellency Brigadier Lansana Conte, chairman of the CMRN and president of the Republic of Guinea, for the African hospitality given him and his delegation. In view of the good relations existing between their two countries, President Samuel Kanyon Doe invited President Lansana Conte to visit Liberia and the invitation was accepted with pleasure. The date for this visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

Issued in Conakry on 12 February 1986

LIBERIA

Minister Warns Students Against Political Actions

AB120932 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0655 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Justice Minister Jenkins Scott has warned that political activities on the campus of the University of Liberia are not allowed and even if it was, any student taking part in such activities are treading on dangerous ground. Mr Scott's remarks came at a news conference late Monday afternoon [14 Feb] with a VOA correspondent at the Ministry of Justice. He said students desiring to form political parties may believe their activities are in keeping with constitutional guarantee of free association but cautioned those who take it upon themselves to interpret the constitution may be taking serious risks. He said nowhere in the constitution does it say students can form political parties. Those who persist in carrying on with such activities, he added, will be punished in accordance with the law. Minister Scott's comments came 2 days after students Unification Party of the University of Liberia issued an ultimatum to the president of the university, Mr Joseph Morris, demanding a lifting of the ban on campus political activities by 24 February. The students Unification Party resolution was issued after a mass rally on the university campus last Friday [7 Feb]. The document claimed that the students of the university have every right to exercise their constitutional rights, elect their own representives and should be a center for democratic practices for students and the society in general. The students did not specify what action they would take if the ban was not lifted by 24 February. It can be recalled that on 22 August 1984, military troops occupied the campus to end students political demonstration. There was no official casualty figure from the 2-day incident but there were reports of excessive force and maltreatment against students and faculties. All political activities on the university campus had been banned since that time.

PRC Cultural Delegation Meets With Karpeh

AB121358 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The visiting 5-man cultural delegation from the People's Republic of China today paid a courtesy call on Information Minister Carlton Karpeh at his Capitol Hill office in Monrovia. In a brief discussion with Minister Karpeh, the head of the delegation, Lu Zhixian, said their visit here was a reciprocation of the one paid by the director general of the Cultural Bureau, Mr Jonathan K. Kamara, in 1982. He lauded the cordial relations between Liberia and China which, he noted, have been strengthened with the visit of President Samuel K. Doe, the head of state, to Beijing in 1983.

Mr Lu Zhixian said the two countries could bridge the gap in communication between them through the exchange of (?personnel) and said his government was doing everything possible to conclude an agreement between LINA [Liberian News Agency] and the News China Agency [as heard] [word indistinct]. He hoped the cultural ties between both countries will continue to grow in the years ahead. He thanked Minister Karpeh and his staff for the kind reception accorded them.

NIGER

Kountche Grants Clemency to Common Law Prisoners

AB121411 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The CMS [Supreme Military Council] president and head of state has signed a decree granting clemency to a certain number of people condemned for common law offences. This measure of clemency which concerns 306 people — men, women and children — is another proof of the CMS president and head of state's constant concern to render hommage to Niger women for their good qualities as spouses and mothers, to the aged, and to the youth of Niger on occasion of the international youth year.

NIGERIA

Minister Receives Hungarian, Bulgarian Envoys

AB121703 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Nigeria will continue to place emphasis on technical and economic cooperation with interested foreign partners. The minister of national planning, Dr Kalu Idika Kalu, stated this today when he received the Hungarian ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Jozsef Bende, in his office. He said that a lot could have been done by Nigeria and Hungary to achieve greater cooperation in the areas of education and agriculture. Dr Kalu stated that efforts were continuing to make the proposed joint commission between the two countries a reality before the end of the year. Earlier, the Hungarian ambassador promised to encourage business links between Hungarian private investors and their Nigerian counterparts.

As a separate meeting with the ambassador extraordinary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr Dimitur Vulev, Dr Kalu expressed Nigeria's willingness to continue existing agreements with Bulgaria. He said that the Federal Government would use any opportunity offered by Bulagaria in the field of manpower development, and that credit facilities for Nigeria's priority projects would be utilized.

SENEGAL

Diouf-Led Cabinet Meeting Ratifies Conventions

AB121109 Dakar Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The meeting of the Council of Ministers, which was held yesterday under the chairmanship of the head of state, was particularly busy. During the session, a framework of cooperation between Togo and Senegal was approved. Under this legal framework, a grand joint commission for cooperation between our two countries has been created.

Still during the same session, the Council examined and adopted six legal documents submitted by the minister of foreign affairs. The president of the republic ratified agreements, conventions, and treaties between our country and some sister African countries, namely Togo, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Benin, Cape Verde, and Mauritania. These are in the economic, social, technical, and cultural fields.

Speaking about the holding in Paris on 17-19 February 1986 of the summit conference of countries using a common language French — the head of state informed the Council that he will personally lead the Senegalese delegation to the summit. He instructed the ministers concerned to take the necessary measures and make adequate preparations to ensure Senegal's active participation.

Joint Commission With Mali Ends Deliberations

AB131030 Bamako Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Deliberations of the Mali-Senegal joint commission for cooperation ended yesterday in Dakar. They were cochaired by Minister Alioune Blondin Beye and his Senegalese counterpart, Professor Ibrahima Fall. At the opening session, the two ministers stressed the necessity to take concrete recommendations which, alone, can be correctly implemented.

At the end of deliberations, the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation will fly to Paris to take part in the preparatory meeting to the francophone summit.

Diouf Receives Beye

AB131325 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, Mali's minister of foreign affairs, was received early this afternoon by the president of the republic. After the meeting, the Malian foreign minister was interviewed by our reporter Pape Malick Gueye.

[Begin Beye recording] You have used the expression active time, I would even say that it was the sublime moment of this Senegal-Mali friendship week. For, there was the seventh session of the joint commission, but also this official visit which I am performing here, with a lot of interest, a lot of friendship and willing disposition from all the Senegalese authorities and people. I also wish first of all, with your permission, to thank respectfully and with respectful gratitude, the head of state for having received me for such a long duration. You saw it: over 1 hour. This gave me the priviledged opportunity to communicate a message from the president of the republic of Mali to his brother and friend which he had charged me to bring to him.

You wanted to know whether there are bottlenecks. I wish to say that bilateral cooperation between Mali and Senegal is in good shape. The president of the republic was saying just now — during this important audience — that in our bilateral relations, we should act henceforth in an examplary way. We must be an example for the South-South cooperation in which the two heads of state believe much, and which has to be built. The session of the joint commission has really proved that, for we have very good reason to be satisfied; for example in the field of freeing us from isolation which is the most important sector in our bilateral relations. Mali is landlocked country and we rely heavily on Senegal in overcoming our isolation internally and externally. And I have had the occasion to say that all means are being used. The roadway: Henceforth, the proposed Bamako-Dakar Road through the south has become a reality. The financing of surveys has been obtained, and they are being undertaken. For the Kaye-Tambacounda, road too, the project is in hand. In the area of — air transport, there are already, of course, the classic companies, but Air Mali and Air Senegal are going to make joint flights. And in the next few weeks or even days, you will see Air Senegal effecting the Dakar-Tambacounda -Bamako flight.

And if you take the waterways, very soon, thanks to the Manantali and Jama Dams, the Senegal River will be an access way for Mali. And if you take the railroad: that is the royal way because it is the oldest.

And finally, and most of all, I have to come back to it: there is the port. I must repeat that in that connection, Senegal has shown an admirable political will. Generally, it is unparalleled in worldwide economic affairs that part of the port of Dakar is considered as Malian territory. And this continues to be strengthened and to attain increasingly important dimensions. All these issues were examined not from the point of view of bottlenecks but for their strengthening. I must tell you, to be very honest with you, that even though there are so many reasons to be satisfied, there remains a topic which deserves all our attention. And it retains the attention of the president of the Republic of Senegal and my Senegalese brothers. That is the problem of trade exchanges. It is essential to harmonize it further. And the cola problem for which we have to find appropriate solutions. And none of these difficulties is beyond our strength, as the political will of the two leaders whom we are lucky to have at the head of our two countries is so great. [End recording]

PRC Vice Minister of Culture Begins Visit

AB121712 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Lu Zhixian, Chinese vice minister of culture, arrived in Dakar this morning for an official visit, and was met by the minister delegate in charge of relations with parliament, Thiern. Ba. Lu Zhixian spoke to the press after his arrival.

[Begin Lu Zhixian recording] Upon the invitation of the Senegalese Ministry of Culture, the cultural delegation of the Chinese Government has come to visit Senegal. The aim of our visit is to discuss cultural exchange with the Ministry of Culture, [word indistinct] Senegal for 1986-87, according to the cultural agreement we signed. During the visit that the Senegalese minister of culture made to China, we signed the program for the implementation of the cultural agreement for 1983-84.

Relations between China and Senegal are good. With the development of political and economic relations between our two countries, cultural exchange continues to develop. I recall that in 1983 the cultural delegation of the Chinese Government, led by the adviser of the Ministry of Culture, Chen Xinren, paid an official visit to Senegal, and this year I have the pleasure of visiting Senegal. I am sure that this visit will enable us to enrich our knowledge about the achievements of the Senegalese people, especially in the cultural field. And I am also certain that this visit will strengthen cultural exchange between our two countries, and strengthen the friendly ties between our two peoples. I would like to take this opportunity to convey the freindly greetings from the Chinese people to the Senegalese people [end recording]

The Chinese vice minister of culture will be in Senegal until 17 February. This afternoon at 1600 he will hold a working session with the minister of communications, Djibo Ka, and tomorrow at 1000, the two men will chair the China-Senegal cultural commission.

Welcomed by Information Minister

AB131330 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Between China and Senegal, a cultural rapprochement is already taking shape. This is the outcome of the meeting held this afternoon between the minister of information, telecommunications and relations with parliament, and the Chinese cultural delegation. The meeting was held in the conference hall of the Ministry of Communications in the presence of experts of the two parties. While awaiting the signing of a cultural exchange protocol between the two parties, the meeting stressed the cultural aspect of an already good cooperation. Here is a report by Abdoulaye Dabho:

[Begin recording] [Dabho] The cultural aspect of cooperation is essential if the cooperation is to be multisectorial, especially if it is South-South in nature. Already, the head of state's visit to that country, the Friendship Stadium which illustrates Chinese ingenuity, and the medical mission are concrete proof of this. China and Senegal have the same preoccupations: belonging to the Third World, thus the common task of developing not only the economy but also the culture. Hence, two words characterize the Beijing-Dakar link: friendship and solidarity. Djibo Ka, minister of information and telecommunications, on behalf of his colleague in charge of culture, does not lose sight of the impact of culture in any cooperation.

Thus the minister of information and telecommunications has banked a lot of hope on this cultural exchange protocol agreement which will be signed tomorrow at 1000 o'clock at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the Chinese side, the head of the Chinese cultural delegation thanked the Senegalese authorities and delegation for the warm welcome given them. The delegation, which is here to discuss with the Senegalese authorities the 2-year cultural exchange protocol, also expressed the great interest which its country attaches to culture.

TOGO

France's Guy Penne Arrives, Meets With Eyadema

AB132130 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Guy Penne, French President Francois Mitterrand's special adviser on African affairs, arrived in Lome this afternoon. He was met on arrival at the Lome-Tokoin airport by Kpotivi Tevi Djidjobe Lacle, member of the Political Bureau and minister of interior.

Soon after his arrival, Guy Penne immediately went to Lome II where he held private discussions with General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the Republic of Togo. Their discussions were followed by a luncheon party hosted by the head of state in honor of his French guest.

Some members of the Central Committee were also present at the luncheon.

ANGOLA

Foreign Minister Rejects Du Toit-Mandela Exchange

ME140600 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Minister of External Relations Afonso van Dunem announced in Luanda the day before yesterday that the Angolan Gvoernment does not see any humanitarian reasons in the exchange of South African Army Captain Petrus du Toit, who was captured in Malongo, for the nationalist leader, Nelson Mandela. The proposal of the South African Govvernment could only obtain the approval of the Angolan Government if it was in connection with the exchange of Capt Petrus du Toit for the Angolan nationals and a Cuban who have been taken away from Angola by the South African forces.

The minister of external realtions was speaking the day before yesterday to a journalist who accompanied Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez in his visit to our country. Minister Afonso van Dunem also disclosed at the press conference that should any government, Western or otherwise, receive the leader of the armed gang in the service of South Africa, such an act will be regarded as hostile and of interference in the domestic affairs of Angola.

Envoy to U.S., UK on Exchange

MB141226 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1223 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] London, Feb 14, SAPA — Angola's ambassador to the United Nations and to Britain said in London today his government would consider a prisoner exchange with South Africa — but he ruled out a straight swap involving Capt Wynand du Toit for the release of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

Mr Elisio de Figueiredo told a press conference: "Most of Africa, if not the entire world, would like to see Mr Mandela free and we associate with that spirit. But in no way is Du Toit to be part of a deal with Nelson Mandela. Du Toit was a commando who was arrested in the Province of Cabinda when he was trying to blow up our installations.

"South Africans have indeed taken out of Angola some Angolans and some Cubans, and my government would consider exchanging those Angolans and Cubans," he said.

The release of Capt du Toit was one of the conditions for Mr Mandela's freedom suggested by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, when he opened Parliament, but Mr de Figueiredo said the South African Government had not approached Angola either on that issue or about an exchange of prisoners.

He reported that Capt du Toit was in good health.

The ambassador called the press conference to complain about the recent visit to the United States by Dr Jonas Savimbi, the UNITA leader. Describing Dr Savimbi as a traitor who had betrayed his people and his country, he called on the British Government to use its influence to help the United States to "see reason." He claimed Dr Savimbi's visit had been "orchestrated" by South Africa.

Mr de Figueiredo accused South African forces of raiding Angola "and then trying to dupe the world into believing it is all the work of a bunch of traitors."

More on Spanish Foreign Minister's Visit

MB121808 Luanda ANGOP in English 1615 GMT
12 Feb 86

[Text] Luanda, Feb 12 (ANGOP) — Angolan minister of external relations, Mr Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, affirmed today that Spain in relation to Angola carried out a policy of relations based on justice, equality, mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs of each state.

Speaking at the start of talks with a Spanish delegation led by the Spanish foreign minister, Mr Fernandez Ordonez, Mr Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, after describing as excellent the existing friendship relations and cooperation between Angola and Spain, said that the visit of his Spanish counterpart is taking place at a moment that the conjugated forces of imperialism and specially those of the most reactionary circles in the United States are embarked upon a larger policy of destabilisation in the region.

On his side, Mr Fernandez Ordonez guaranted that his country strongly condemns all external assistance to the counter-revolutionary bands aimed at disruping the Angolan Government.

He went on, stating that his visit is happening at a particularly difficult moment for the region, as imperialism continues to carry out destabilising actions in the region.

Prior to the beginning of talks, Mr Fernandez met with the state secretary for cooperation, Mr Carlos Fernandes, with whom he discussed possibility of reinforcing bilateral cooperation.

In Luanda, the Spanish foreign minister is scheduled to meet the planning minister, Mr Henriques Silva, and Oil and Energy Minister Mr Pedro de Castro Van Dunem (Loy), with whom he will study possibilities for the Spanish oil company Hispanoil to operate in Angola's offshore block-5.

Mr Fernandez Ordenez, who arrived in Luanda on Tuesday for a two-day official visit to Angola, is due to leave Luanda tomorrow for his country.

Party Officials Dismissed, Appointed

MB130752 Luanda Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Following the several departments of the Central Committee and in the context of the reorganization of the party central apparatus, the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee met on 7 February and the directors of the following departments relieved from duties:

Maria Terezinha Lopes of the Department of the Judicial Organs;

Jose Ambrosio Eduardo (Tambo), of the Department of State Organs:

Jose Carlos Gomes, of the Department of Support of Grass Root and Social Organizations;

Joaquim Quelhas Mesquita Mota, of the Department of Energy and Communications;

Humbeto do Carmo alves Machado, of the Department of Agriculture and Industry;

Norberto Fernandes Dos Santos, of the Department of Organization;

Gabriel [name indistinct] Pereira, of the Department of Administration and Finance; and

Antonio Joao Sbastiao da Silva (Lende), of the Department of External Relations.

Comrade Eufrazina Teresa da Costa Lopes e Gomes (Maiato), assistant dirctor of the Secretariat of the party Central Committee, was also relieved of her duties.

In accordance with Article 54 of the Central Committee regulations, the Political Bureau appointed the following officials as directors:

Comrade [name indistinct] De Sousa as director of the Department of Organization;

Comrade Maria Terezanha Lopes as director of the Department of State and Judicial Organs;

Comrade Joao Manuel de Oliveira Barrada as director of the production sector;

Comrade Luis [name indistinct] Paulo de Castro as director of the Department of External Relations;

Comrade Eufrazina da Costa Lopes de Gomes (Maiato) as director of the Secretariat of the party Central Committee.

Armed Forces Kill 17 'Counterrevolutionaries'

MB131957 Luanda ANGOP in French 1749 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Benguela, 13 Feb (ANGOP) — A total of 19 UNITA counterrevolutionaries in the pay of the racist South African regime were recently killed by the Angolan Armed Forces at Chongori and at the communal village of Canuine, Benguela Province, according to an authorized military source.

The operations also allowed the Angolan forces to seize a large quantity of war materiel of South African origin which was being used by the puppets, the source said.

LESOTHO

42 ANC Members Reportedly Flown to Zambia

MB141101 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1043 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Maseru, Feb 14, SAPA — A group of 42 members of the African National Congress were airlifted from Lesotho to Zambia last night, according to reliable sources.

The group left in a chartered Lesotho Airways plane following arrangements by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, SAPA correstpondent reports. This was the third group of South African political refugees to be sent away since last month's coup.

The South African Government demanded the removal of the ANC refugees from Lesotho during the three-week "border blockade" as one of the conditions for the lifting of the blockade, a situation which threatened to cripple Lesotho's economy.

SOUTH AFRICA

Scheduled Winnie Mandela News Conference Banned

MB131911 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A news conference for Winnie Mandela has been prohibited under the Internal Security Act. The meeting was due to be held in Alexander township near Johannesburg tomorrow. It was to have been addressed by leaders, including Bishop Desmond Tutu and the Rev Allan Boesak. They apprently plan to urge the government to stop harassing Mrs Mandela.

A spokesman for the organizers says a new venue will be announced at the last minute tomorrow, in an attempt to avoid further legal hurdles. Mrs Mandela has been in hiding near Johannesburg for nearly 2 months, since she was banned from Johannesburg and Soweto.

Prisons Service Declines Comment on Mandela Checkup

MB131421 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1412 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — The prisons service said in Pretoria today, when asked to confirm whether black leader Nelson Mandela had today undergone a medical check-up, that it was not the policy of the prisons service "to comment on the individual movement of prisoners." "In any case, the rumours are not true," he said.

A report today said Mandela had left his prison for an hour-long medical examination but was soon back in prison.

Alleged Film of Mandela at Center

MB140626 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2311 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 13, SAPA — Confusion surrounds television footage, allegedly of jailed leader Nelson Mandela, shown overseas today.

The 14 or 16 second clip, taken by a Columbia Broadcasting System [CBS] television crew from a closed circuit television screen at Cape Town's Medipark Centre, was allegedly verified by Mrs Winnie Mandela. But a spokesman for the South African Prisons Services, Colonel D.J. Immelman, told SAPA tonight:- "We deny that we let Mandela out of Pollsmoor Prison today."

He reiterated an earlier statement that it was "not prisons service policy to comment on the movement of individual prisoners."

A reporter for CBS, Mr Allen Pizzey, said tonight that a man in prison fatigues coming out of a doctors office was filmed and later shown to Mandela's wife, Winnie.

"She saw the picture. It was 14 or 16 seconds and she watched it several times and said: the tall very fit-looking figure. That's him, that's his walk," Mr Pizzey told SAPA. He added that the pictures are black and white and do not show great detail.

The group of journalists were watching a closed-circuit television security monitor at Medipark and saw a group of men emerging from a 10th floor room at 9.25am.

In a report from London, REUTERS News Agency said the footage taken at Medipark was shown on British commercial television today.

"The film showed four barely-recognisable men walking briskly along a corridor of a building which a television news programme described as Cape Town's medical centre," the report said.

Ambulance Leaves Pollsmoor Prison

MB141338 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1335 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 14, SAPA — About 60 people — mostly journalists and supporters of Nelson Mandela — had gathered outside Pollsmoor Prison in Tokai by noon today in anticipation of the possible release of the ANC leader.

In scorching heat reporters and television crews waited outside the visitors entrance from early morning, joined later by a number of people claiming to be Mandela supporters. About 10am a prison ambulance similar to that which took a prisoner to Medipark yesterday left Pollsmoor. It sped towards Cape Town with journalists in pursuit, but they returned soon afterwards, having lost it.

Mandela 'Not To Be Released'

MB140830 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0625 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 14, SAPA — Jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela is not about to be released, a spokesman for the prisons service in Pretoria said today.

Speculation of the imminent release of Mr Mandela gained fresh momentum today after a CBS news crew claimed it had filmed Mr Mandela at Cape Town's Medipark yesterday. A spokesman for the prisons service denied the claim, but Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of the 67-year-old leader, is reported to have identified her husband as the man filmed.

Asked to comment on the rumours, a spokesman for the office of the state president said there was nothing further to add to what President Botha had said in his speech at the opening of parliament.

A prisons service spokesman said this morning that rumours of Mandela's release were "not true — and that is all."

Defense Ministry Reiterates Policy Toward Neighbors

MB141012 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1008 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 14, SAPA — South Africa was not planning nor did it desire conflict with neighbouring states and if such states succeeded in getting rid of terrorists with outside help then it was a "praiseworthy attempt," the Ministry of Defence said today.

A spokesman said in a statement neighbouring states "merely have to prevent ANC terrorists from using their territories and no South African soldier will find it necessary to cross any border to clean up terrorist nests."

"The state president, the minister of foreign affairs and the minister of defence are on record as saying South Africa is not planning nor wants aggression with any of its neighbours," the statement said.

"The minister of defence (General Magnus Malan) is also on record as saying that South Africa will not allow terrorists to use foreign territories to commit murder and other acts of terrorism against South Africa. These neighbouring states merely have to prevent ANC terrorists from using their territories and no South African soldier will find it necessary to cross any border to clean up terrorist nests."

In an apparent reference to the recent announcement by Botswana that British Army personnel are to assist with the training of the Botswana Defence Force, the spokesman added:

"If these neighbouring states succeed in ridding themselves of ANC terrorists with foreign assistance, it is surely a praiseworthy attempt."

Heunis: Reform Must Be Tested Against Realities

MB131228 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Reform in South Africa must be tested against realities and not against the status quo says the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Mr Chris Heunis. He was speaking at a symposium of the South African Institute of Civil Engineering. Ossie Gibson filed this report from Pretoria.

[Gibson] There could be no reform without a price, and while everyone spoke of reform no one was willing to pick up the price tag, said Mr Heunis. He encouraged the engineering profession, which was crucial in providing local, regional, and national services, to become more involved in ground-level planning of priorities before the contracts were drawn up. Mr Heunis said constitutional reform would have to go hand-in-hand with reform and other disciplines as it was a process encompassing many different government departments. In planning and coordinating this utilization and combating public enemy no. 1 which was unemployment, the government was prepared to help the engineering profession wherever possible. Success at the regional level would help to step up the process of reform at the top.

UDF Member Released From Detention, Restricted

MB121518 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1425 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 12, SAPA — United Democratic Front [UDF] member Miss Cheryl Carolus was today released after three weeks in detention and immediately restricted, a UDF National Executive Committee statement said today.

Miss Carolus was detained in terms of emergency regulations on January 22 after being arrested on her return from Europe.

In terms of the restrictions imposed, Miss Carolus cannot:

— Absent herself from the magisterial district of Wynberg in Cape Town.

— Participate in any of the activities of the UDF.

— Enter the premises of any educational institution.

— Be associated in any manner with any publication.

— Attend any meeting where the government's policies are attacked, criticised or discussed.

The UDF said the restriction order impsed on Miss Carolus was part of a systematic attack by the state on the "democratic movement" in general and the UDF in particular.

In the western Cape, nearly the entire UDF executive had been served with restriction orders, while in other parts of the country, the "attack on activists continues unabated," the UDF statement said.

"We condemn these draconian actions in the strongest terms and we warn the government that as long as it continues to suppress legitimate anti-apartheid activity, there will be no peace in South Africa," the statement added.

Slabbert Interviewed on Resignation From Parliament

MB121543 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans
1800 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert interviewed by Freek Robinson on the "Network" program, presented by Kolie van Koller — live]

[Text][Van Koller] One of the subjects of every political discussion in the country since Friday has almost certainly been the sudden resignation of Dr Van Zyl Slabbert as leader of the opposition and member of parliament. He is in our Cape Town studio and Freek Robinson speaks to him. Freek?

[Robinson] Thank you very much, Kolie, and we welcome Dr van Zyl Slabbert, who is in our parliamentary studio in Cape Town. Let us just see if we have contact with him yet. Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, can you hear me?

[Slabbert] Yes, I can hear you, Mr Robinson.

[Robinson] Welcome. Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, when you resigned, you said certain things about Parliament as an institution. You said, inter alia, that you felt it is ineffective. Since then, other reports had appeared. What exactly did you say about the institution of Parliament?

[Slabbert] What I said was that Parliament is the only insittution in the country which can bring about effective constitutional change, for the simple reason that one needs a constitution in order to be able to bring about constitutional change. But I also pointed out that if the government misuses Parliament, or treats it with contempt, them there can be no effective constitutional change. It is against that background that I began to reconsider my own role, and became disillusioned in my negotiations with the government. I do not speak out in judgment on the necessity of parliamentary tradition or the need for changes in constitutional law. I still believe that these are essential.

[Robinson] But, intrinsically, did you not try to imply something by that? Because you used the expression: if the government misuses it. Now, can you not qualify that? Are you saying this was actually done by the government, or what is it you are trying to say?

[Slabbert] No. I made it very clear in the no-confidence debate. I began my speech by saying there are three reasons I believe the government deserved a vote of no confidence. One was their blatant disregard of Parliament in 1985 during the difficult day we went through. And I gave examples. I said we had the emergency in some districts, and asked that Parliament be called into session. The stock exchange closed. The rand slipped to 35 cents. That is, 35 cents to the dollar. These are all examples I believed Parliament had to be involved in the process. And I mentioned other examples in the whole contitutional law development process, where Parliament was quite simply informed of 1-sided plans drawn up by the government, and in which we played no role. I also referred to the fact that there are more and more of what I called military executive actions — the actions against the neighboring states, where Parliament is just not informed, and we have no idea what is going on. Third, I referred to the fact that in the whole process of the so-called dismantling of apartheid, it is the government which makes the decision on how it has to be done, what the pace must be, and if they are prepared to involve other people in this process or not. And it is in this regard that I believed that I had to reconsider my role as leader of the opposition.

[Robinson] But the government is elected by the voters, and it is elected for a stipulated period, and it rules on the basis of laws made in Parliament. And there you, just like any member of the National Party or whatever party, have the right to speak, but the government still has to govern for a stipulated period and you can then question how it does so in the next session of Parliament. Why then do you feel so strongly that because they refused when you wanted them to recall Parliament, that should suddenly become the major reason for your decision that you personally could no longer continue with your position in Parliament?

[Slabbert] Yes. Well, I think, Mr Robinson, we have to differentiate here between protesting agaisnt the policy of the government — which of course has the right of any parliamentary opposition — and doing away with the policy of the government. And when one speaks of reform in South Africa, then we are in fact speaking about doing away with government policy of the past 3 and 1/2 decades. And in that process of doing away with it, in that process of moving away from apartheid, I fear it is not going to be good enough if they are not going to take the joint inputs and talents of a variety of groups and people in our society to do so effectively.

[Robinson] Including the opposition, where you had the opportunity.

[Slabbert] Exactly. That is precisely my argument, that in the process of getting rid of apartheid, I came to the conclusion that government is not actually intersted in real negotiation politics. I am, of course, prepared to be proved wrong.

[Robinson] Yes, but how can you say that? I think the president himself made the point at the opening of Parliament, where he specifically had the new forum in mind. That shows surely that there is a certain degree of progress on a specific body he wants to create special for negotiations with blacks, which he said was the first step towards power-sharing. And in addition, you were yourself coopted into the cabinet committee to play a role within that body in the negotiation process.

[Slabbert] You are mentioning interesting cases, which I fear do not really illustrate the point. You know, if you think back to last year, you will recall that the state president announced a non-statutory forum, on which he also wanted to invite people to dicussions. And nothing came of that, for the simple reason that is another example of the government deciding on its own that here is a forum, and people must come forward to serve on it. That failed. Then the state president said he was going to form a cabinet committee, an enlarged cabinet committee, on which I and other opposition leader would be able to serve, in order to discuss black constitutional development. I waited for 3 months without getting a single invitation or knowing what was happening to that cabinet committee. Eventually, I wrote a letter asking when the committee was going to meet, and what was going on. Well, I was hauled over the coals by the minister of constitutional development because I had brought it out into the open. But eventually we did meet, and we met for only 30 minutes, and never again after that. After that, because of an earlier request, I went to give evidence in the cabinet committee and to see once again if there was any way in which we could find each other in this process of reform and negotiation. And I came away convinced that the government has its own determined point of view, from which it would not deviate, and others either have to agree on that or forget the whole thing. And you mention this year's statutory committee, which will be appointed by the state president or, rather, be formed by him. There again we have an illusion. The government decides they are going to set up a statutory committee. Why do they not first negotiate with people, and find out if there is a need for something like that, and what the functions of it will be. So, the point I...

[Robinson, interrupting] But, Doctor, one has to reach a point of negotiation, one way or another.

[Slabbert] Quite so. I agree, Mr Robinson. But I am trying to say that if one has to reach the point of negotiation, then one first has to go and find out what one can negotiate about. And one point which I tried to make — and I personally went to say this to the state president and to various cabinet ministers — as long as the government is going to cling to the idea of compulsory group membership, compulsory ethnicity, compulsory council membership for whatever reason — for residential purposes, for education purposes, and also for constitutional purposes — if they are going to cling to those, they will simply not get the negotiating process off the ground. Adn I am not the only one saying so. There are large numbers of leaders inside South Africa, from among the black community — Chief Buthelezi recently said again it is impossible for him to participate in the negotiating process if the government does not state very clearly that it is prepared to allow freedom of association and freedom of choice. [sentence as heard]

[Robinson] But it seems to me you expect a single public declaration from the government which, to a certain degree, would be a considerable moving away from its policy in the past. Even though there are already certain signs — because it seems to me you raised the issue of free association as one important principle in your own reason for resigning — and yet there was also the matter of the opening of free business districts, there have been certain ammendments to the Liquor Act which gave to hotelliers and restaurant owners the right to serve whom they wish. We have examples in the world of sport. These are all moves in the direction of free association, and you have now at a particular point come in and said these things do not exist.

[Slabbert] No, you see, I did not say that. What I said was: Does the government accept the principle of free association? Then the government, through Minister F.W. de Klerk says in the no confidence debate that yes, in certain instances they accept it, but in others, not. Then the question arises: Why freedom of association for the purposes of sex and marriage but not for the purpose of residential area? Where are the children of such a marriage going to live? You see you cannot have first or second-class apartheid. Either you are going to have freedom of association, where people can choose to what groups and associations they wish to belong, or you must keep the old apartheid, and this is, I think, what the CP says, that you either have apartheid or you don't have it at all. But what the government is now doing is that it is abandoning apartheid here and there and this creates expectations which the government is not prepared to fulfill and this accentuates the demands which arise in the black communities, and we...

[Robinson, interrupting] But this highlights the role of the opposition in Parliament, where you have undoubtedly played an important role in tackling the government through protest politics as you say. Could you not have continued in the role in the reform process?

[Slabbert] Well, Mr Robinson, it could have been possible, but I can tell you that I have tried for 12 years, I have given 12 years of my life to see how I could exploit that forum to promote negotiation politics as best I can to get rid of apartheid. At some state or the other one must ask oneself the question — and I am not judging my party or the role of the opposition, but as an individual you have done what you could — are there no other ways through which one could exploit the situation? That is precisely what I have decided to do. I have tried my best, and I must see if I cannot contribute in other areas to the dismantling of apartheid and the promotion of negotiation politics.

[Robinson] One of the statements made is that only the CP will benefit from your decision and you are a man who was a strong proponent of reform. This is one argument you must have had in mind?

[Slabbert] I do not know if one can use the argument to doom someone permanently to a position in opposition, where there is no progress from his side. It means I have become a decoration in Parliament. People like me, they think I am a friendly person who delivers good speeches and I must remain there to make sure that the government does not suffer too badly at the hands of the CP.

[Robinson] I don't think it is just a question of friendliness. You must have made an impact; otherwise you would have resigned earlier.

[Slabbert] Well, I must say it is noteworthy how relevant I have become from the moment I decided to resign.

[Robinson] Doctor would you say in retrospect that you have brought the reform process under suspicion to a certain degree? Would such a statement be justified?

[Slabbert] I suppose it would be justified in this respect, Mr Robinson, that if I compare the government's advertising campaign with speeches made by Minister Gerrit Viljoen and F.W. De Klerk, then I do not believe the advertisements were correct in creating expectations. If we tell the whole world that we are really moving away from apartheid or as the state president said, we have outgrown the old concept of apartheid — then we are not going to convince the world through advertising campaigns. We can only convince the world if the black people themselves or those who suffer under apartheid, tell us that they can see that apartheid has disappeared, and therefore I had to say in the no-confidence debate that we must go to the blacks and find out from them what the possibilities are for reforming or dismantling apartheid — how do they see it? Because eventually it is our coexistence which will determine whether we have a good society or not — because we have to live with the consequences of reform and this has nothing to do with concepts, it concerns legislation.

[Robinson] I would like to ask you about Parliament as an institution. After your resignation, various black leaders, internally, and also from organisations such as the ANC, have praised your decision and said you have really created the example of what others inside Parliament should do as well, and thereby some of these people have cast a reflection on Parliament from outside.

[Slabbert] Mr Robinson, let me put it to you this way. I did not do it to curry favor with any organization or political leader outside Parliament, but I think it would be shortsighted if we think that those people's views on Parliament are determined by my actions. I believe their views on the relevancy of Parliament are well-known and repeated many times. I think it is a special challenge to Parliament and to all of us to see to what extent we can prevent the polarization which is implicit in those views and bring about a situation in which we could talk to each other without fighting with each other.

[Robinson] Now if that is your view, Doctor, how are you going to achieve this now if, as you said earlier, you believe that Parliament is the institution where change must take place, and no constitutional, peaceful, evolutionary reform can take place without Parliament as an institution. If you believe that and you believe that polarization in our society must be eliminated, how are you to play that role as a concerned citizen of South Africa?

[Slabbert] I think implicit in the question is the thought that Parliament is a separate cocoon which will work out how society is to be governed. That is not so.

[Robinson] But here are representatives in Parliament...

[Slabbert, interrupting] But they come from outside Parliament and they reflect certain feelings, views, and attitudes outside Parliament. Equally there are those outside Parliament who do not have access to Parliament and if they begin to think that the only alternative is confrontation and violence, then Parliament can do what it likes, but we will have an intensified struggle, here. Therefore I believe, equally, that one should look outside Parliament for ways of promoting the possibilities of negotiation rather than confrontation and ...

[Robinson, interrupting] Is that what you are going to be busy with in future?

[Slabbert] Hopefully, yes. I will see what I can do but I cannot prescribe or tell you precisely what I have in mind. I have only been out of Parliament for 2 days. I would like to consider the possibilities.

[Robinson] In other words, you had no idea before resigning on how you are going to continue your role to realize your aims for a peaceful South Africa?

[Slabbert] Let me put it this way, Mr Robinson. There is a whole series of possibilities that one can investigate. I think what I am going to do for the foreseeable future is to learn more about my own society — on the labor front, the education field, community life — to see what possibilities exist in which I can play a role. In parliamentary life one is caught up in the ritual of Parliament and all that is involved and as a party politician one has to look at party interests. Therefore it follows that one is caught up in one facet of negotiation politics and in the political life of our country. I am going to exploit other possibilities.

[Robison] Another matter I would like to ask you about is the position of your own party. Various commentators have written this weekend that you have done your party a disservice and that this party is in a difficult position. They have even said that you were a great asset to the party, but the great question is the role of the opposition as a means for Parliament to achieve certain aims, and through your resignation you have dealt a blow to opposition politics in Parliament.

[Slabbert] I regret it if that is the case. I think, in all sincerity, if a party is solely dependent on an individual then its right to exist is questionable. I do not believe that is the case with the PFP. I think there are enough capable people in the PFP who can play an important role in opposition politics. I believe the policies and principles of the party are relevant to parliamentary politics. So I cannot see why an effort should not be made to move forward. I will concede....

[Robinson, interrupting] You have made statements which are a reflection on your own party and also on your position as such. You said the party is engaged in futile dialogue. Is that not really a reflection too on your position itself and your party's role, that you do not believe that it has any value?

[Slabbert] No. That was a criticism leveled at government. I think the PFP has succeeded very well in criticising certain points in the no-confidence debate. They were successful in pointing out shortcomings in government's viewpoints and I believe they should continue to do that.

[Robinson] Very successful, very successful, is a reasonably strong...

[Slabbert, interrupting] Yes, but as you say these are statements I made. I tried to say that there are people in government who were not prepared to participate in the debate for whatever reason, and that was a futile thing to do, you know. What does it help if we shout at each other? And I think in many cases it was a purposeful attempt by government to avoid the questions. I also tried to indicate this in my reply, specifically in my attitude to Defense Minister Magnus Malan, who questioned my loyalty but did not answer any of my questions. That is futile. It is absurd to do that. It is a waste of the taxpayer's money.

[Robinson] What assurance have you that your own party members who are still in Parliament are going to continue the task which you regard as important, when you still feel so negative about the things which you have experienced?

[Slabbert] I think I tried to distinguish between my own position as political leader and the way I experienced it and my frustrations. I did not project my frustrations on the party. I said I have tried to play a role to the best of my ability. In the final analysis it is not a life sentence in South Africa if you belong to Parliament or to a political party. You try to make a contribution. You try to consider carefully whether you are progressing in terms of your position, then you must act in all sincerity and decide what you are going to do thereafter. That is what I did finally. But suddenly it has become a sort of high treason because I did these things, because I decided I want to see if I cannot make a contribution elsewhere than in Parliament.

[Robinson] Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, thank you for taking part tonight in our program.

[Slabbert] Thank you very much, Mr Robinson.

Eglin Hopes Slabbert Incident Makes Government Aware

MB131331 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1319 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] House of Assembly, February 13, SAPA — The action leader of the opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, said today he would not mind the damage that Dr van Zyl Slabbert's resignation had done to the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] if it drove home to the government the "desperate seriousness" of the situation that was developing in South Africa.

Speaking in the second reading debate on the part appropriation bill, Mr Eglin said he wished to place on record the appreciation of his fellow PFP MP's to Dr Slabbert for the contribution he made to debates in the house and to the wider political debate in South Africa during the time he was an MP and leader of the opposition.

"We recall in particular his efforts to make debates in this house relevant to the realities of a South Africa of 30 million people.

"The state president will know political leadership is both a public and at the same time a uniquely personal experience — I know this. I have been too close to Dr Slabbert over many months in his anguish over the role he was playing as the leader of the opposition to join in any public recrimination over the step he took last Friday.

"It may well be that his action had hurt many of his friends. It may well be that it will do temporary damage to the party he served. But let me say that I for one would not mind enduring the hurt done to me or my party, and the damage, if his dramatic move could drive home to this stubborn and shortsighted government the desperate seriousness of the situation that is developing in South Africa."

Mr Eglin also said the PFP would continue its fight "here in Parliament where the apartheid laws have to be scrapped and where one day we will enact a new non-racial constitution."

"We will take our message to the millions of South Africans outside of this Parliament.

"It is my conviction that for any party in this house to be able to play a meaningful and constructive role in the politics of tomorrow, it must not only be relevant to the white voter but it must also be relevant in the wider and bigger non-racial political arena where so much of the politics of tomorrow is going to take place."

Pik Botha: No Decision Made on Namibia Independence

MB131356 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1335 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 13, SAPA — The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said today he was not aware of any decision taken by South Africa on the date for implementation of UN Resolution 435 on independence for SWA/Namibia.

His department issued a short statement in Cape Town after reports here that Mr Botha and senior U.S. officials had discussed the issue during talks in Geneva yesterday.

The reports said Mr Botha, the South African ambassador to the U.S., Mr Herbert Beukes, and U.S. senior foreign affairs official had met Dr Chester Crocker, the U.S. assistant secretary of state from African affairs, and other American officials. They were reported to have discussed South Africa's willingness to set a date for implementation of Resolution 435 to help U.S. efforts toward a Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola.

In his statement today, however, Mr Botha said only that he was "not aware of any such decision by the South African Government on this issue.

Natal, KwaZulu To Meet Cabinet on Joint Legislature

MB131537 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The government is (?planning) to meet with Natal-KwaZulu leaders to discuss a planned joint legislative body for the whole area. KwaZulu's Chief Minister Buthelezi, Cabinet Minister Oscar Dlomo, Natal's administrator Radcliffe Cadman, and senior Natal Executive Council member [name indistinct] will now be going to Cape Town to see the Cabinet. Carmel Rickard has more details.

[Rickard] The four key figures in the KwaZulu-Natal talks are to see Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis on 11 March. On their agenda is a request to the minister to enact legislation which will allow them to set up a single legislative authority for KwaZulu-Natal. They want this joint body to allow for participation from all groups. At a news conference after their latest round of talks in Durban this afternoon, the cochairmen of the planning committee also announced more details of an indaba [discussion] which will be set in motion immediately after the Heunis talks. This meeting will discuss the new constitutional dispensation for the region, and invitations will be given to all interested groups, including the ANC, the UDF [United Democratic Front], and trade unions as well as management and political groups.

SOWETAN Journalists Refused Press ID Cards

MB130930 Joahnnesburg SAPA in English
0928 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 13, SAPA — Three senior journalists on the *SOWETAN* have been refused press identity cards by the South African police, the newspaper reported today.

The three are Mr Thami Mzwai, the news editor; Mr Joe Thloloe, the features editor; and Mr Sam Mabe, the political reporter. All three are also executive members of the Media Workers Association of South Africa (MWASA).

Without the accredited police press cards, it means that the three may not enter and stay for purposes of their professional work in any area under police control from which the general public is excluded.

Yesteday, the *SOWETAN* editor, Mr Joe Letakgomo, said he was going to take the matter up with the relevant authorities because he viewed the police refusal in "the most serious light."

"If I cannot get accreditation for my senior staffers it will obviously impede our ability to keep our readers informed about what goes on in the townships," he said.

Until 1981 there was a uniform police press card system for all journalists, which allowed them access to areas under police control and to interview the commissioner of police or any senior commissioned officer. But in August 1981, an agreement was reached between the Newspaper Press Union (NPU) and the police whereby the NPU was allowed to issue cards annually to reporters whose integrity could be vouched personally by their editor. The police would, however, issue accredited press cards, which would be the only ones that would allow holders access to areas under police control.

Two Killed in Renewed Tribal Fight Near Durban

MB140715 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0704 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, Feb 14, SAPA — Two people were killed in the Umbumbulu area south of Durban when renewed tribal fighting between the Embo and Makanya factions erupted last night.

Police said that a small group of about 20 Embo men attacked members of the Makanya clan with knobkerries, sticks and assegais at the Tholeni reserve at Umbumbulu.

When police arrived they found the bodies of two men from the Makanya clan, both stabbed to death.

Police will be in Umbumbulu in full force over the weekend to prevent further fighting between the two groups.

Meanwhile, they have made 12 arrests in connection with the murder of three policemen who were killed there, together with seven other people, during faction fighting in the area. They have also seized four firearms and large amounts of ammunition.

Police said the situation was quiet today and members of the South African police reaction unit were keeping a close watch on the situation.

Efforts to arrange peace talks between the two chiefs have been unsuccessful because the chief of the Embo clan is in hiding.

'Scores' of People Arrested in Witbank Raid

MB131419 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1411 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — Scores of people were arrested on various charges in a pre-dawn raid conducted by police and an SADF unit on the four Witbank townships today. This was confirmed by the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria. A police spokesman said the police and the SADF conducted a "crime prevention/detection operation" after arsonists had yesterday stoned and set six vehicles on fire.

Six trucks bearing company logos were set alight in the townships of Lynville and Ackerville, and a bus was stoned outside the coloured township of Schoongesicht.

According to an eye-witness, police and the SADF unit conducted a house-to-house search in the townships of Kwaguqha, Lynville, and Ackerville, where a number of people, mostly youths, were arrested.

In other incidents of unrest, a bus was stoned in White River and another in Barberton, where a black man was injured.

Police Shoot at Youths in Church Center Raid

MB131955 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1947 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 13, SAPA — Armed police in helicopters raided a West Rand ecumenical centre early this morning, arresting at least 55 children from unrest-torn areas who had been sent there for sanctuary. Three of the children who escaped into the surrounding bushes sustained bullet wounds from R1 rifles, and several of those arrested have allegedly also been wounded.

The children, aged between 15 and 22, had only been at Wilgespruit Ecumenical Centre for about five days, the centres director, the Rev Dale White, told SAPA tonight. Most of them aged about 15 to 16, were sent there by the Bishop Suffragan of Johannesburg East, Bishop Simeon Nkoane, from the riot-torn areas of Leandra, Daveyton and Kwathema.

Rev White told what happened after the helicopters flew over the centre at about 7am today.

"Three helicopters flew over the centre. Two of them landed and some armed policemen got out. As I was about to leave my home to investigate, I was met by a Major Scheepers, who handed me a search warrant empowering the police to search for people, firearms and documentation," Rev White said.

He was told to accompany two policemen — Captains Kleynhans and Lubber — who would search his office.

"I was about to do this when I heard some shots — about 15 to 20. I left the captains as I wanted to see what was going on. I thought it's impossible that they could be shooting at children. I was very shocked.

"They didn't let me go out, but from my office I could see a policeman with his rifle in the air. It seemed he had fired some of the shots. I saw some children walking outside with their hands up. The captins insisted I stay with them while they search my office. While I was sitting in my office I heard further shots and the crying of children. You can imagine how I felt, hearing these children who were in my care and the savage behaviour on the part of the police."

He said the police took nothing from the office. After making some notes from his address book, the policeman left.

"I then went down to the centre, where I found that male police had body-searched two of the woman cooks, making them strip right down. A Captian Kruger told me I should lay a charge about this.

"After the police left, some children came out of the bushes — it's a very bushy area — three of them wounded."

One had a bullet in the buttocks, another had his knee grazed and the third his foot grazed by a bullet, the director said. Four others also came out of hiding.

Rev White voiced concern over the welfare of the children: "We were just getting to know them and their problems, which to take to court and so on. We were just getting a social worker," he said. "While the people conducting the searches of the offices were very polite, what was happening to the children was very different."

He said the children had all been examined very recently by a medical doctor, who found four had old bullet wounds, two had broken limbs, one was concussed and four were highly disturbed. Some of the arrested were children of workers at the centre.

"I've been trying to trace the children but the only name they gave me to contact was a Major Halgryn, who hasn't been at home. I heard on a news bulletin that 13 of the children were taken to Lesley, near Leandra, and the others are in Krugersdorp," Rev White said. About 14 of them were from the trouble-torn Leandra township, and were sent to the centre as refugees from conservative vigilantes in the township.

Four of the children were daughters of Chief Ampie Mayisa, who was hacked to death by vigilantes in Leandra the day before he was to meet Dr Chester Crocker, U.S. envoy for African affairs, last month.

Major T. Halgryn tonight denied "absolutely" Rev White's allegations that three children had been wounded by bullets and that woman cooks had been searched by policemen.

Anglican Bishop Describes Raid

MB131500 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1457 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 13, SAPA — Police fired shots and wounded a number of youths at Wilgespruit ecumenical centre on West Rand today after they raided the centre in helicopters and cars, the Anglican Bishop Suffragen of Johannesburg said.

Bishop Simeon Nkoane said he had visited the centre following today's police raid and was told by the director of Wilgespruit, the Rev Dale White, that between 35 and 45 young people — apparently refugees from vigilante violence in Leandra — had been arrested. Some of them had bullet wounds.

"The police were said to have arrived at the centre in three helicopters and a large number of vehicles. There were apparently about 40 to 50 of them. They presented a search warrant to Mr White ... and proceeded to go around the place.

"Some youngsters in panic tried to run away. They ran outside. The police followed them, shooting. I believe about six children were wounded. Most are said to have been arrested, about 35 and 45 of them, some were wounded."

The bishop said most of the youths were between 14 and 18 years of age. Most were from Leandra and were seeking shelter after a clash between conservative vigilantes and community activists.

He said it was possible that four girls arrested were daughters of Chief Ampie Mayisa, who was hacked to death by vigilantes in Leandra last month.

The youths had been at the centre for about three weeks, the bishop said.

Police Say Several Detained

MB131514 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The South African Police say several people are being detained after a police swoop on the Wilgespruit Ecumenical Center west of Johannesburg. A police spokesman said the people were held in connection with recent acts of violence in black residential areas of the Rand and in the eastern Transvaal. He said warrants had been issued earlier for the arrest of some of those held in today's swoop.

Thousands Boycott School in Pretoria Townships

MB130903 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0855 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — Thousands of pupils in Pretoria's black townships stayed home today following a call for a two-day school boycott to commemorate the death of an Atteridgeville pupil and the recent shooting of three pupils.

The stay-away has been called to mark the death of Emma Sathekge, who died after she was run over by a police vehicle in the township in 1984. Sathekge was a pupil at the D.H. Peta High School in Atteridgeville.

The stayaway was also called to protest against the recent shooting of three pupils in Atteridgeville and Mamelodi and the detention of several student leaders.

There was a partial stay-away in Mamelodi early today while all schools in Atteridgeville were deserted. Police and defence force members in casspirs and other in private cars patrolled the townships streets.

The newly-formed Transvaal Students Congress has organised services throughout the country to commemorate the death of Emma Sathekge. The stay-away is expected to end on Monday.

Meanwhile at Soshanguve — another black township near here — it was quiet but tense today after several acts of violence last night.

The police divisional commandant for Pretoria North, Lieutenant-Colonel Tom Bezuidenhout, confirmed that three policemen's houses were damaged by stones and later set alight.

Two Bophuthatswana Transport Holdings (BTH) buses had several of their windows smashed when they were stoned by youngsters.

Residents cautiously left for work early today amid fears of being stopped after rumours that memorial services would be held for Emma Sathekge today and that people should stay away from school and work.

Police Disperse Women Marchers With Teargas

MB140848 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0846 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 14, SAPA — Police today fired teargas to disperse a group of women about to march to the Atteridgeville police station near Pretoria.

The women, who had gathered at Ramohoebo Square, were preparing to march to the police station to protest against the shootings of two local pupils, George Moima, 15, and Daniel Moima, 13, allegedly by police at the weakend.

No children reported for school in the township today, while taxis and buses were not visible this morning and trains ran empty.

Large numbers of residents stood on street corners, watching as some women clad in black moved past to gather for the march. A single helicopter hovered above.

Police fired several teargas canisters into the group of women, forcing them to scatter. No casualties were immediately reported and the situation remained tense.

'Top-Level' Inquiry Into Police Shooting of Youth

MB131655 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1003 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, Feb 13, SAPA — A top-level investigation under the personal supervision of the divisional criminal investigation officer for Port Natal, Brigadier John van der Westhuizen, is underway following the death of a Kwandengezi schoolboy and the shooting of one of his friends.

Brigadier van der Westhuizen said today a murder and an attempted murder docket had been opened and investigations were continuing.

The investigation follows the death of Mbongeni Ephraim Mgedezi, 17, who is alleged to have been shot dead by a policeman, and the shooting of his friend Delani Sithole, 18, who was wounded in the thigh. Delani said yesterday the shooting took place on Sunday afternoon.

AZASM Claims Responsibility for Ga-Rankuwa Unrest

MB130843 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0841 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — The Azanian Students Movement [AZASM] has claimed responsibility for the recent unrest in Ga-Rankuwa north-east of Pretoria.

In a pamphlet distributed in the area, the movement denied claims by the authorities that foreigners were behind the unrest.

It also condemned what it called "cold blooded killing of people for no apparent reason by Bophuthatswana police."

Police Report 13 Feb Unrest Incidents

MB131808 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1755 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — Following is the 7pm unrest report issued by the SAP Public Relations Division in Pretoria.

"The following incidents on unrest were reported today:

"At Soshanguve, near Pretoria, a private home and a private vehicle were extensively damaged when they were petrol-bombed. Another private home was slightly damaged in a similar incident.

"At Kabokweni, near White River, a police vehicle was stoned. Two black males were arrested in connection with this incident.

"In Soweto (Witwatersrand), a private vehicle was destroyed by arsonists and a number of buses were damaged by stonethrowers. One of the bus drivers was injured.

"In the same area, a post office vehicle was set on fire and extensively damaged.

"At Rosedale coloured residential area in the eastern province, a delivery vehicle was petrol-bombed and extensively damaged.

"In the black residential area near Witbank, a tractor and a truck were destroyed by arsonists.

"At Dondonald black residential area near Lothair, in the eastern Transvaal, a private vehicle was destroyed by arsonists.

"At Rocklands near Bloemfontein, an illegal gathering was dispersed by the police, who used quirts.

"A woman and a man were arrested. At Mohlakeng near Randfontein, a private vehicle was extensively damaged by arsonists."

Report ends.

Overnight Incidents Reported

MB140615 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0610 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

At Katlehong near Germiston 2 buses, 3 delivery vehicles and 3 private vehicles were damaged when they were stoned and petrol bombed during separate incidents. Three male youths were arrested.

At Soweto on the Witwatersrand a bus was destroyed by arsonists.

At Munsieville near Krugersdorp a male youth was slightly injured when a policeman's home was petrol bombed.

Commentary Warns Botswana To Take Action on Terror

MB140548 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Station commentary: "Terrorism and Botswana"]

[Text] To say that the level of a government's commitment to a course is determined not merely by ministerial statements but, much more important, by the action it takes, is a statement of the obvious. Nevertheless it is one which the Government of Botswana might well consider more seriously, in the wake of yet another act of terrorism by ANC members launched from its territory.

On this occasion a landmine explosion on the northern Transvaal border was followed by a chase in which a soldier died and one of the two terrorists was shot dead while fleeing back to the Botswana border.

After repeated incidents of this nature the Botswana Government must be aware that there is by now a strong swell of scepticism in South Africa about its protestations of innocence. According to spokesmen for that government it neither harbours ANC terrorists nor permits them freedom of movement through the country.

In the past few weeks it has been engaged in serious talks with South Africa about a variety of matters including security, and has continued to give the assurance that it does not accommodate terrorists. Yet the facts paint a diferent picture. In the latest incident the tracks of the last fleeing terrorist led directly to the Botswana border. Even more conclusive, with the river flowing strongly he had spent some time walking up and down along the bank, obviously looking for a place to cross safely.

The behaviour of the terrorists also followed precisely the pattern established in eight other landmine attacks in the last two months, when nine civilians were killed. Commentators have observed that the ANC is apparently trying to open a new front for cross-border terrorism, the indications being that Botswana is, if not the base from which they operate, at least a safe-passage conduit.

The South African Government has appealed repeatedly to neighbouring states to abide by the rules of conduct observed between civilised countries.

It is in that spirit that President P.W. Botha has mooted the idea of a permanent joint mechanism to deal with security, especially in respect of threats to peace and progress in the subcontinent. But he also felt constrained, in his opening address to Parliament, to deliver a warning: "If this offer by the Republic of South Africa should be ignored or rejected (he said) we shall have no choice but to take effective steps in self-defence to protect our country and people."

Protestations of innocence are well and good, but the real measure of a government's intention is to be found in what it translates into action.

Press Examines Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report] **Treurnicht on Black President**
Johannebsurg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 11 February reports on page 4 that Dr Andries Treurnicht, leader of the Conservative Party (CP), has said President Botha had to step in to prevent what he called a palace revolution in the National Party (NP). Dr Treurnicht feels Minister Pik Botha had given the correct and logical implications of NP policy when he spoke about a black president. "If power sharing is accepted, a black government and a black president are a likelihood eventually, Dr Treurnicht said last night in an interview." He says the CP has had a stormy reaction to President Botha's opening speech to Parliament and the ensuing advertisement campaign. It is reported that a CP member of Parliament received a letter from a rural supporter in which the writer said "we are prepared to take up arms" if the government allows blacks into the parliamentary system.

DIE VADERLAND on Black President

In its editorial on page 6, the paper says for a long time there has been a silent debate in the political arena on the concepts of prescription as opposed to choice and compulsory group formation as opposed to free association. Events in Parliament last Friday brought all these to a head. Whatever one's view, the final question is whether every population group can rise to the highest political level. If one says yes, then it is logical that we can have a black president. "If this is not stated, it will make the political debate in the country impossible. Blacks who carry weight could never participate in a process whose limits have been prescribed beforehand." Among whites, too, there is uncertainty after Friday's events in the House of Assembly, and uncertainty chases away more supporters than firm but unpopular leadership. "It is vital that the National Party decides quickly which way it wants to go — prescription or choice. If the first, it must realize this would not agree with the climate created by the opening speech to Parliament by the state president, and the advertising campaign which followed."

Storm Over Pik Botha Reprimand

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 10 February reports on its front page that the storm over President Botha's reprimand of Foreign Minister Pik Botha has not yet died down. The paper says in discussions with ministers, deputy ministers, and members of Parliament last week it appeared that the majority in the National Party caucus had the same understanding of the matter as Minister Botha, namely, that a black president was a logical outcome. It adds that while up to 50 NP members of Parliament are unhappy at the pace of reform and particularly the government's inability to get a meaningful dialogue with black leaders going, there is no thought of crossing over to the Progressive Federal Party (PFP).

Tension in National Party

In its editorial on page 6, the paper says last Friday's events in Parliament will have many consequences. It is not, the paper says, simply a matter of the leader of the official opposition resigning in frustration or a senior minister being reprimanded or that sides have clearly been taken within the National Party. There is tension in the NP, and the state president has come out in support of Minister F.W. de Klerk's view of party policy. "Indeed, the whole credibility of the opening speech and the ensuing advertising campaign is now under a cloud. To say that a large number of Nationalists who agree with Pik Botha's correct view of the logical outcome of power sharing are angry, is to underestimate the matter because in the caucus of the NP it has been accepted that he was correct. After Friday there is a fluidity in our politics. How matters are dealt with this week and what happens in the NP caucus can have an effect on the possibility of a party political rearrangement."

Viljoen Denies Takeover Plans

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 12 February reports on page 11 that former SADF chief Constand Viljoen has denied allegations by the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (Afrikaner Resistance Movement, AWB) that he had been involved in the plans by that movement to take over the government of the country so that the "Afrikaner republics" could be handed back to the Afrikaner nation. The paper quotes General Viljoen as saying: "'I have no political aspirations. I am in no way going to involve myself in politics, particularly not with extremist groups like the AWB. Pepole who claim otherwise are fishing on dry land.' "

BEELD on Boraine

In an editorial on page 10, the paper says De Alex Boraine of the official opposition seems to be echoing Dr van Zyl Slabbert's disaffection with Parliament, and refers to Dr Boraine's statements on "a greater open window" to extraparliamentary groups and interests. The paper asks: "What do we see through that 'greater open window' and 'in the veld.' " Among other things, groups which attend funerals under the revolutionary flag of communism. Open propagation of the ANC which is involved withh terrorist attacks. Groups involved in bloody fights in black areas. Marches, demonstrations, etc.' " "The question at the core is: Are ordinary Progressives going to allow this, or are they going to let Dr Boraine understand what they feel about this dangerous game? They ought to have little enough confidence in him to let him seek a political home elsewhere."

Release of Mandela

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 12 February reports on pages 1 and 2 that Nelson Mandela would not "be released from prison today or in the immediate future, government sources said yesterday." "South African intelligence sources said yesterday however that there are 'definitely negotiations going on concerning the release of Mandela.' " However, they doubted that they were linked to the East-West exchanges. " 'From the South African point of view, whatever capital is to be made out of releasing Mandela the government will want for itself. It would not make sense for them to participate in swaps for which the Americans or other powers will want to claim the credit,' said a source." The source continued: " 'Because Mr Botha appears to have committed himself to the principle of releasing Mandela on humanitarian grounds, it is being expected that he will be released. But the timing and the conditions will be those dictated by South Africa's Government, and when they consider that the right price has been paid.' "

PFP on P.W. Botha Statement

On page 3, the paper reports a statement by Colin Eglin, interim Progressive Federal Party leader, in response to Chief Buthelezi's criticism of P.W. Botha's criticism of Pik Botha's remarks on a black president. Eglin said the president "must tell the country whether he is committed to maintaining apartheid or to dismantling it." He noted that the president angered blacks with his repudiation of the suggestion that there might be a black president. However, this was not surprising. " 'But it has drawn attention to the fact that once again Mr Botha has put Nationalist unity ahead of the interests of the country. Mr Botha was trying to keep together within the NP those who believed in apartheid and those who did not.' "

PFP Leadership Struggle

The paper reports on the same page that Eglin appeared to have the PFP leadership within his grasp. "A headcount of the 27 MP's shows that Mr Eglin has a strong lead within the caucus. But the caucus has no formal standing in the Federal Council, which will elect the acting leader pending a full congress." Dr Alex Boraine had angered some colleagues by refusing to put his future in Parliament beyond doubt. " 'We have had one Van Zyl Slabbert and we cannot afford another,' remarked one MP."

CITIZEN On Pik Botha

In an editorial entitled "Unfortunate" on page 6, the paper says that Pik Botha's remarks on the possibility of a black president were "most unfortunate." Although this may have been encouraging to foreign governments and media, "in purely local terms they could only embarrass the state president, since he has his own constituency and that constituency would certainly not whoop with joy at the possibility of a black president." The paper does not believe that the foreign minister will lose credibility but is concerned about the credibility of the president, which has been brought into question by Chief Buthelezi's statement. Although it is up to Pik Botha to decide about his position in the government, clearly "he has done his party and government a disservice, besides embarrassing the state president."

Mandela Rejects Release

Johannesburg the *SOWETAN* in English on 12 February carries a front page article on the possible release of Nelson Mandela which cites a source "close" to the paper as saying "Mandela has rejected freedom, refusing to leave his colleagues on Robben Island."

Editor on COSATU Call

In a reaction to the call by the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) for its members to boycott the *SOWETAN* on page 3, the paper's editor, Joe Latakgomo, said " 'The *SOWETAN* is not, repeat not, essentially anti any black organisation. We have stressed the need for a positive, united effort against the forces of apartheid in all forms. We will continue to do so, and wish organisations like COSATU support us in our struggle towards our common goal freedom for all.' "

Union Members Fired for Strike

"About 340 members of the United African Motor and Allied Workers Union employed at a German multinational company, August Laepple Pty Ltd in Pretoria, have been dismissed after going on strike," another report on the same page says. The workers, who participated in an illegal strike on Monday, were given an ultimatum to return to work and those who did not do so were dismissed.

NUM Congress

In the "Workers' Diary" on page 8, Joshua Raboroko writes that this weekend's fourth annual congress of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) is probably the union's most important congress since its formation. The congress is taking place against the background of "continued labour unrest in the mines and political turbulence in the country," and "is expected to make important policy decisions about the union's relationship with employers and the Government."

New Debt Repayment Plan

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English for 12 February reports on the front page that new proposals for rescheduling South Africa's foreign debt call for an initial capital repayment in the first quarter of the year. One London banker is quoted as saying that the repayments are likely to involve " 'only a relatively small down-payment on the principal debts' " to safeguard creditor-bank interests. The report says South Africa will probably accept the principle of phased repayment starting in the first quarter of this year and negotiate on the specific proportions of the debt to be repaid at various stages, though some sources said South Africa might reject the plan outright.

Editorial on PFP

BUSINESS DAY says in a page 6 editorial that the "savage attack" by the Progressive Federal Party (PFP) on business for not supporting it more vigorously "smacked of justification for a shoddy departure that hardly bears raking over." The irony is that the PFP, "never proud that it was financed at all by business," was able to get as much business support as it did. Perhaps the PFP should not aim to be a mass party of the middle, the editorial says. Its future may lie as a "party supporting free enterprise and individual liberties and making no bones about it." The PFP will never be the ruling party, but it could have more credibility and do a "valuable job" in Parliament keeping the National Party to its promises and mitigating their "worst efforts at economic despoilation."

Editorial on Foreign Debt

A third *BUSINESS DAY* editorial says there is reason to believe that the new foreign debt rescheduling proposals have "more than a fighting chance" of acceptance, "if only because the attitudes of key U.S. banks are now less hostile." The passing of time has improved the atmosphere for negotiation, though the South African negotiators will have to "show a stern face," the editorial warns, otherwise the "mischiefmakers" will toughen things up." "Pray that P.W. doesn't upset another applecart in Parliament before next Thursday, which he is quite capable of doing."

Editorial on Black President

A *STAR* editorial on page 12 says that even from the government's "blinkered" viewpoint, placating the white right wing does not pay. President Botha did that last week when he repudiated the idea of a black state president, thus alienating the one man who was crucial to the plan for a national statutory council — Chief Buthelezi. The idea of a black president has been mentioned by more than one top Nationalist — going back to Prime Minister John Vosster — but if that is no longer party policy, the editorial says, "what on earth is?" Chief Buthelezi is entitled to a clear statement of where Mr Botha is leading the country. Reform will gain credibility only once the "government looks to the future of the majority, not the fearful prejudices of the few," the editorial concludes.

STAR on Mandela Release

The justice minister's remarks on the impossiblity of releasing Nelson Mandela gives "new cause for dismay," another editorial says. His release is not "an issue for international chess. The Government is surely well aware that internal requirements — not world opinion — demand the release of Mr Mandela." The state president risks painting himself into a corner where he cannot release Mandela without losing face. "And everyone knows that the government would sacrifice the country's interests rather than lose face," the editorial concludes.

Economic Outlook

An article on page 16 quotes the February "Economic Spotlight," magazine of the South African bank Volkskas, that 1986 will be a year of "hope and headaches." The magazine says exports should show "marginal improvement," the price of gold has risen and there are more promising agricultural conditions. The business cycle is following an upward course and economic policy is aimed at supporting economic growth." "Lower interest rates, reduced growth in the money supply, the sizeable surplus on the current account of the balance of payments, the stronger rand and prospects of improved company profits in several sectors'" offer cause for optimism. However, the magazine says, not everything is rosy. The nonavailability of foreign loans is not taken seriously. As a rule domestic savings are insufficient to finance the level of investment for supporting a satisfactory growth rate. The negotiations on the foreign debt are extremely important and these will influence "economic growth and the general welfare of the population in the years ahead." And "finding a solution to the unemployment problem continues to present one of the greatest challenges," while high and rising inflation is "more dangerous and dire than ever," the Volkaskas magazine says.

SATS Tariff Increase

Gerald Reilly reports on pages 1 and 2 of Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 13 February that the Progressive Federal Party's (PFP) spokesman for transport, John Malcomess, has predicted "shock tariff increases" for the South African Transport Services (SATS). Malcomess also said that the SATS "had slashed staff by 40,000 over the past two years, and was committed to a further cut of 20,000 in the months ahead." "The recession, a steep fall in freight and passenger traffic and reduced tourism" are among the reasons for the SATS' "huge deficit," which may reach 400 million rands, according to the transport minister. The chairman of the Federal Council of SATS Trade Unions said he feared "further tariff hikes appeared unavoidable."

Warning on Centenary

"The Community Support Committee (COSCO) has called on the entire private sector to dissociate itself from Johannesburg centenary celebrations," Sipho Ngcobo reports on page 4. COSCO leader Khehla Mthembu said companies could "'incur the wrath of the black people'" if they participated.

Parents Favor Opening School

"Almost 80 percent of parents who replied to a questionnaire were in favour of opening SA college junior and high schools in Cape Town to all races," another report on the same page notes. Of the 600 parents polled, 500 favored opening the schools, 90 opposed it, and the rest were undecided.

Mandela Release Urged

In an editorial on page 6, the paper says that recent events have had the effect of substantially diminishing "the impetus" of the "laudable intentions" the president announced in his speech at the opening of Parliament. One way to restore the impetus is to release Nelson Mandela "and having released him, talk to him." The government will have to talk to the ANC sooner or later and "why not sooner, while a modicum of goodwill remains?"

Du Plessis Statement Disputed

Another editorial on the same page says that although "it's almost impossible to believe," Finance Minister Barend du Ples sis " 'dismissed suggestions linking the run on the currency with President P.W. Botha's Rubicon speech.' " However, economic fundamentals could not have caused a 22 percent decline in the value of the rand in 12 days, the paper says.

Owen on Slabbert Successor

Commenting on "the abdication" of former PFP leader Frederik van Zyl Slabbert in another column on the same page, Ken Owen says the PFP "has been grievously wounded by Slabbert; it must not suffer another such blow." It is up to the party's federal council, when it meets this Saturday, "to choose as its leader a man who can stay the course and, if he must, selflessly prepare the way for another man's triumph."

No Blacks Volunteer For SADF

"No black South African volunteered for national service in the South African Defense Force last year, Minister of Defence Magnus Malan said yesterday," Barry Streek reports on page 8. Malan also said that 1,847 Coloreds and 297 Indians had volunteered.

Schwarz Defends Pik Botha

Ormonde Pollock reports on the same page that PFP MP Harry Schwarz "sprang to the defence of Foreign Minister Pik Botha," describing the state president's reprimand of the foreign minister as a " 'spectacle.' " " 'If there is to be power-sharing without domination, irrespective of the nature of the structure, how can the office of the president be reserved for any particular group?' " Schwarz asked in Parliament.

Schwarz Not PFP Candidate

In another article on the same page, Pollock reports that Schwarz has formally declared he is not a candidate for the PFP leadership. Schwarz also said he intended to remain in Parliament "no matter how flawed the system."

SPCC in 'Tenuous Position'

In an article on the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee (SPCC) on page 17, Maud Motanyane comments on the SPCC's "tenuous" position. "Striking a balance between the views of radical pupils — so aggrieved by Bantu education that they no longer want anything to do with the system — and those of parents eager to see the children back behind their desks, has been a difficult task." And "how long the SPCC will hold on to its role of being a broker in the education crisis remains to be seen."

Inflation Forecast at 18 Percent

A report on page 18 cites stockbrokers Simpson, Frater, Stein & Strong as forecasting that "the average commercial rand will be about $0.39 in the current year and inflation will remain at a high of 18 percent." They note however that the improvement in the rand has "subdued widespread fears of hyper-inflation, that is, over 25 percent." Reasons for the inflation rate are that recession has forced producers to absorb costs which may be passed on to the consumer, government attempts to stimulate the economy, many price and wage adjustments, and the possible instability of the rand. They do not believe authorities want the rand to appreciate significantly more because they would rather use excess dollars to build up exchange reserves and a higher rand would decrease exports and increase imports.

Centenary Boycott

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 13 February reports on page 4 that "ten companies have pulled out of the Johannesburg centenary celebrations in support of a call to boycott the event, the Community Support Committee (COSCO) disclosed this week." The names of the firms were not given, however, by agreement.

Slabbert's Next Move

An article on page 6 by Prof Herman Gillomee of the University of Stellenbosh speculates on the motives of Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert for resigning as head of the Progressive Federal Party and on what he plans to do. Noting his frustrations with the lack of leadership in Parliament, the writer notes that the extraparliamentary opposition is even more leaderless. However, "there have been occasions when the extraparliamentary opposition has displayed impressive solidarity, a sound sense of tactics and a shrewd understanding of what demands were attainable," such as the Eastern Cape consumer boycotts. "South Africa desperately needs a strong and disciplined extra-parliamentary movement to wage the battle for peaceful change. The gulf between the ANC and the National Party is so wide that no negotiations are possible, except if a peaceful extraparliamentary movement succeeds in mobilising the middle ground." "Could it be that Dr Slabbert's real destiny be in connecting Stellenbosh and Rodebosh to the Cape Flats?"

Editorial on Statutory Councils

The *SOWETAN* comments on page 6 that the proposals for a national statutory council are going through the "throes of a slow and well deserved death." The state president's public reprimand of the foreign minister showed everybody "what he and some members of his Cabinet have in mind" and "resounded all the way out of Parliament to the black population — Chief Buthelezi included." Noting the West Rand Council Association's rejection of the statutory council, the editorial asks who "on earth" will sit on them. P.W. Botha should "play this game straight," the editorial says. He should say it is impossible to dismantle apartheid because his constituency will not allow it. He should say equal participation in government will never take place in his lifetime. It is, the editorial concludes, "the only decent thing to do."

Clash Over Schools

The Johannesburg *CITIZEN* in English for 13 February carries a report on page one by political correspondent Brian Stuart that a "serious political clash" is threatening between the government and the colored and Indian houses of Parliament over the opening of their schools to pupils of all races. A spokesman told the *CITIZEN* that National Education Minister De Klerk "did not wish to comment" until he had met with the two ministers concerned — Carter Ebrahim, minister of education and culture in the House of Representatives, and K. Ramduth, equivalent minister in the House of Delegates. A spokesman of the majority Labor Party in the House of Representatives and majority National People's Party in the House of Delegates, told the *CITIZEN* that their parties were "committed to ending apartheid." This included a demand for a single department of education for all races.

Editorial on Blacks Killing Blacks

Commenting on page 6 on the recent killing of seven blacks by "people's courts," the *CITIZEN* says the "killing of blacks by blacks in the most horrible way is one of the worst features of the unrest, suggesting a savagery that goes well beyond ordinary protest." A generation has become so used to attacks on people and property that there is a "danger that violence will become the norm rather than the exception." "Heaven help South Africa if black against black savagery becomes a permanent feature of township life as well." It is time, the editorial says, that "blacks saw violence as being both self-defeating and a curse."

Dutch Reformed Church Outlook

An article on page eight quotes an editorial in *DIE KERKBODE*, official organ of the Dutch Reformed Church, that 1986 will be "a watershed year for South Africa and for the family of Dutch Reformed churches." *DIE KERKBODE* said " 'far-reaching reforms...raised the moral question (of) whether whites in practice — and not just on paper — will grant others the rights and privileges they demand for themselves.' " The article says the editorial also said the "troubled relationship" between the white and colored churches would receive "particular attention" during the year.

New Nonracial Ordinance

A new shop hours ordinance passed by the Transvaal Provincial Council has been hailed as " 'a milestone of totally non-racial legislation.' " A page eleven article says a progressive Federal Party provincial council member said the ordinance was " 'totally non-discriminatory in colour, race or sex. Nowhere in the ordinance are the words black or white.' " The ordinance replaces one used for 75 years which specifically provided for "black towns," "black areas," "whites," and "locations."

MP's Furious Over Boraine Resignation

In a front-page article in Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 13 February, political correspondent David Braun reports "PFP MP's were furious" over the resignation of the party's federal executive chairman, Alex Boraine. "One said it was because Dr Boraine realised he was not going to become leader." PFP MP's in Parliament "are adamant" that they will not follow Slabbert's and Boraine's lead and say they have a commitment to the voters.

Buthelezi Wants Official Invitation

Commenting on President P.W. Botha's statement that his door was open to KwaZulu Chief Minister Chief Buthelezi "to discuss with him any issues on which he wanted clarity, including the proposed national statutory council," the paper reported on page 5 that Chief Buthelezi "said he was waiting for an official invitation to talks with the state president."

Government Enhancing Mandela's Image

In a report on page 4, PFP MP Brian Goodall told a meeting in Bedfordview that "the government had done more to increase the stature of jailed African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela than anyone else." Goodall said "that if Mandela were to be released he would lose the support he enjoys now 'when he does not deliver the goods.' "

Country Not Off Hook

In an editorial on page 16, *THE STAR* says that even if an agreement is reached on South Africa's foreign debt repayment, "the country will not be left off the hook by overseas bankers and the international community." "The outside world has to be convinced South Africa is not in the throes of a revolution, that racial repression is on its way out, and that money invested here will not only be safe but will be free of the apartheid taint," all of which take time to accomplish.

BEELD on Statutory Council

The Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 13 February says in an editorial on page 12 that "some people believe that another initiative is going off the rails following Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's critical questions on the National Statutory Council." His demands are that the structures and functions of the council should be clearly stated, it should not be a "talking house", and blacks should not be the "political porters". Naturally President Botha cannot reveal details now because they will have to be negotiated. Therefore, his invitation to Chief Buthelezi should be valued. "Come and discuss your problems privately rather than publicly." Concluding, it asks "What now from Chief Buthelezi? It seems to us like a typical example of someone who is mustering courage to say 'yes'. He is critical but not condemnatory. He is setting conditions that do not seem unattainable. If that is the case then success is nearer than what many people think."

DIE VADERLAND on Black Murders

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 12 February says in an editorial on page 8 that "gruesome acts such as the latest murders in the Eastern Cape are what we feared when we warned at the onset of violence that this sort of 'reform campaign' is a threat that could be self-destructing." Indications are that the victims were Azanian People's Organization members and the executioners were United Democratic Front men. Very often it happens the other way around. The editorial notes that "it is unfortunate that blacks are murdering one another while the government's vehicle for peaceful and negotiated reform is not being used."

ZAMBIA

Foreign Minister Denies Mandela Release to Lusaka

MB141210 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1200 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Zambia has denied that Mandela is to be released and flown to Lusaka. Zambia's foreign minister, Lameck Goma, says his government has no knowledge of reports that the jailed ANC leader is about to be set free and sent to Lusaka.

He was dismissing speculation in the Zambian capital and elsewhere that Mr Mandela's release was imminent. Mr Goma said that Mr Mandela's family have stated that they do not want to be expelled [as heard] and the international community wants Mr Mandela to be released in South Africa.